

CHAPTER 5.4.

MEASURES AND PROCEDURES APPLICABLE IN- TO THE EXPORTATION OF COMMODITIES

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Japan	<p>Category: General</p> <p>Rationale:</p> <p>According to Article 5.4.1, this chapter provides <i>exporting countries</i> with recommendations on measures and procedures, and the roles and responsibilities of their <i>Veterinary Authority</i> or other relevant <i>Competent Authorities</i> and of operators. In the current draft, “<i>Veterinary Authority</i> in the <i>exporting country</i>” and “<i>Veterinary Authority</i>” are used throughout this Chapter. For consistency, “the <i>Veterinary Authority</i>” should be used except as otherwise specified.</p>
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Article 5.4.2.

General considerations

The *Veterinary Authority* of the *exporting country* should ~~ensure that~~ make operators aware of the *importing country* requirements, if they are available to the *Veterinary Authority* in accordance with Chapters 5.1. and 5.2. In addition, the *Veterinary Authority* should make operators aware of the process required to meet the conditions of the *international veterinary certificate* including *importing country* requirements, ~~including all information required for the agreed international veterinary certificate, in accordance with Article 5.1.1. and Chapter 5.3., are available to exporters.~~

The *Veterinary Authority* of the ~~exporting country~~ should be responsible for the implementation performance of official controls in coordination with other relevant *Competent Authorities* in accordance with *veterinary legislation* to ensure that exported *commodities* ~~can be traded safely and meet the requirements of the importing country requirements.~~ Its legal mandate and responsibilities of the *Veterinary Authority* and other relevant *Competent Authorities*, as described in Article 3.4.5. and 3.4.13., should include the export official controls activities at any step in the export process and the opportunity to request from the operator ~~exporter~~ any necessary information. Where appropriate, the *Veterinary Authority* and other relevant *Competent Authorities* may delegate certain tasks ~~in accordance with point 2 of Article 3.4.5.~~ Adequate human, technical, physical and financial resources should be available in the *exporting country* for the *Veterinary Services* to allow those effectively implement official controls ~~to be undertaken effectively~~ and to properly apply the certification obligations and procedures laid down in Chapters 5.1. and 5.2., in accordance with the quality principles ~~described in Article Chapter 3.2.2.~~

The *Veterinary Authority* should cooperate closely with the customs authority and other authorities of the *exporting country* dealing with exports to ensure that official controls are implemented ~~performed~~ effectively, and to protect maintain the status compliance of the *commodities* with *importing country* requirements ~~without creating unjustified barriers to trade.~~ This cooperation should also cover actions to prevent and combat fraud or illegal pathways.

Japan	<p>Category: Editorial</p> <p>Proposed amended text:</p> <p>The <i>Veterinary Authority</i> should cooperate closely with <u>the customs authority</u> and other <u>relevant law enforcement</u> authorities of the <i>exporting country</i> dealing with exports to ensure that official controls are <u>implemented</u> performed effectively; <u>and to protect maintain the status compliance of the commodities with importing country requirements without creating unjustified barriers to trade.</u></p> <p>Rationale:</p> <p>For consistency with Article 5.6.8.</p>
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The *Veterinary Authority* should have procedures, as applicable, for certification of the *animal health status* of the herd/flock, compartment, zone, or country, zone, compartment, or herd/flock as well as of the disease situation in *establishments* and other premises and communicate with the operator-exporter regarding any additional documentary evidence that may be required to support such certification.

The *Veterinary Authority* ~~in the exporting country~~ should ensure that the applicable certified *animal health status* of the herd/flock, compartment, zone, or country, zone, compartment, or herds/flock or *animals*, is based on appropriate *surveillance* and reporting in accordance with Chapter 1.4.

The *Veterinary Authority* ~~in the exporting country~~ should have procedures for registration and approval of *establishments* of origin, where applicable, and other facilities used for production and handling of consignments, to comply with the agreed-international veterinary certificate. Operators should not hinder access by the *Veterinary Authority* to the *commodities*, the premises where they are located and the *means by which they are transported* of transport. During official controls, operators should assist and cooperate with the *Veterinary Authority Services* and make available all relevant information concerning the consignment.

The *Veterinary Authority* ~~of the exporting country~~ should ensure that appropriate identification of *commodities* is in place to support traceability for the consignment to comply with the agreed-international veterinary certificate. *Animal identification* should be in accordance with Chapter 4.2. and Chapter 4.3.

Upon request from the *Veterinary Authority* of the *importing country* or from the *Veterinary Authority* of the *transit country*, the *Veterinary Authority* of the *exporting country* should provide additional information on the process to ensure compliance with the conditions included in the agreed-international veterinary certificate, and undertake investigation and reporting, and give reasonable access for audit in case of repeated non-compliant consignments ~~jeopardising the safety of trade~~. The *Veterinary Authority* of the *exporting country* should take ensure that the appropriate and necessary preventive measures to ensure that the status of the commodities remain compliant is not jeopardised before and during transport to the point of exit. The *exporting country* should suspend the export of a *commodity* when there is reason to believe that it may present a risk for animal health and public health or ~~that if~~ it does not comply with the agreed-international veterinary certificate.

The *Veterinary Authority* of the *exporting country* should promptly communicate to the *Veterinary Authority* of the *importing country*, any change or situation, such as a change of the animal health status, that may affect its capacity to fulfil-certify the conditions of the agreed-international veterinary certificate.

The *Veterinary Authority* of the *exporting country* should also inform without delay the *Veterinary Authority* of the importing country, and, where necessary, the *transit country*, in the event that a particular issue such as the occurrence of a listed disease or a disease referred to in the importing country requirements which may affects the compliance status of a commodity which has already left the exporting country. This information should be part of the relevant emergency response plan developed in accordance with Chapter 4.19.

In case of animals, operators should ensure that animal welfare is maintained throughout the export process in accordance with Section 7 as relevant.

The *Veterinary Authority* ~~of the exporting country~~ should carry out collaborative activities with other relevant Competent Authorities, customs, other authorities and operators, and with *Veterinary Authorities* in other countries, to control the risk posed by the illegal cross-border movement of *commodities*, i.e. the international movement of *commodities* done in a way to expressly and intentionally avoid official controls.

Japan	<p>Category: Editorial</p> <p>Proposed amended text:</p> <p>The Veterinary Authority of the exporting country should carry out collaborative activities with other <u>relevant Competent Authorities</u>, customs, <u>and</u> other <u>relevant law enforcement</u> authorities and operators, and with <i>Veterinary Authorities</i> in other countries, to control the risk posed by the illegal cross-border movement of <i>commodities</i>, i.e. the international movement of <i>commodities</i> done in a way to expressly and intentionally avoid official controls.</p> <p>Rationale:</p> <p>For consistency with Article 5.6.8.</p>
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[...]

Article 5.4.4.

Specific recommendations depending on commodities

1. Animals

~~In the case of animals, the Veterinary Authority should ensure that animal welfare is maintained throughout the whole process of exportation, in accordance with Chapters 7.1., 7.2., 7.3. and 7.4. as relevant.~~

The ~~operator/exporter~~ should ensure that ~~vehicles/vessels~~means of transport used for transportation of *animals* throughout the ~~whole export process of exportation~~ undergo adequate *disinfection*, and that measures are implemented to prevent and control vermin such as rodents or arthropods. These measures should be applied before every *loading of animals*. ~~Vehicles/vessels~~Means of transport should contain only *animals* meeting the same sanitary requirements of the same health status ~~except where effectively adequately separated to prevent disease transmission.~~

Japan	<p>Category: Addition</p> <p>Proposed amended text:</p> <p>The operator/exporter should ensure that vehicles/vessels<u>means of transport</u> used for transportation of <i>animals</i> throughout the whole export process of exportation undergo adequate <i>disinfection</i>, and that measures are implemented to prevent and control vermin such as rodents or arthropods. These measures should be applied before every <i>loading of animals</i>. Vehicles/vessels<u>Means of transport</u> should contain only <i>animals</i> <u>meeting the same sanitary requirements of the same health status</u> except where effectively adequately separated to prevent disease transmission <u>and such separation is approved by the importing country.</u></p> <p>Rationale:</p> <p>According to the Report of the meeting of ad hoc Group in April 2024, "(...) the ad hoc Group, in line with the opinion of the Code Commission, agreed with a comment that more than one consignment of animals could be shipped at the same time on a vehicle/vessel, provided that the animals are adequately separated <u>and importing country requirements allow for this to occur.</u>"</p> <p>Japan shares the same view and proposes the addition as above.</p>
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~~Containers~~ should be either new or cleaned and disinfected before every *loading of animals*, in accordance with Chapter 4.14., ~~or be for single use~~

The *Veterinary Authority* should ensure that, before leaving the *exporting country*, consignments of *animals* ~~should be~~ subjected to a visual examination, at an appropriate place and time according to the procedures of the exporting country and the agreed international veterinary certificate and the requirements of the exporting country. It should be ensured that, from the time of this visual examination inspection until the time of leaving the *exporting country*, the *animals* in the consignment are not in contact with other *animals* of a different health status.

The *Veterinary Authority* ~~in the exporting country~~ may require welfare inspection of consignments of *animals* at the *point of exit*. Such inspections should be supported by *veterinary legislation*, which should also ascribe authority to deny permission to export if *animal welfare* concerns are identified.

2. Germinal products

Consignments of *germinal products* should be packed, dispatched, and transported in a way that preserves the viability and integrity of the products.

Consignments of *hatching eggs* should be dispatched from parental *flocks* that meet the conditions of the ~~agreed international veterinary certificate~~. *Containers* should be either new or cleaned and disinfected before every use, in accordance with Chapter 4.14.

Cryogenic tanks for semen, oocytes or, embryos should be dispatched from *semen collection centres* or *collection centres* that meet the conditions of the ~~agreed international veterinary certificate~~. They should be single-use cryogenic tanks or be cleaned and disinfected before use in accordance with Chapter 4.14. and use new liquid nitrogen.

Consignments of semen, oocytes or, embryos, should be identified in accordance with the relevant recommendations of Chapters 4.6. to 4.11.

The *Veterinary Authority* should ensure that, before leaving the *exporting country*, consignments of *germinal products* ~~be~~ subjected to a visual examination and documentary check and cryogenic tanks for semen, oocytes or, embryos ~~be~~ sealed and marked, according to the procedures of the exporting country and the agreed international veterinary certificate and the requirements of the exporting country.

3. Animal products

Containers used for transporting *animal products* should be suitable for the type of product, protect the *animal products* from damage or contamination, and fulfil the conditions of the procedures of the exporting country and the agreed international veterinary certificate and the requirements of the exporting country.

The *Veterinary Authority* should ensure that adequate measures are taken to clean and, where necessary after cleaning, to disinfect before use, *containers* and *means of transportation* in accordance with Chapter 4.14., particularly when conveying or transporting unpacked materials.

The *Veterinary Authority* should ensure that, before leaving the *exporting country*, consignments of *animal products* ~~should be~~ subjected to a visual examination and documentary check, according to the procedures of the exporting country and the agreed international veterinary certificate and the requirements of the exporting country.

Emergency planning for unexpected events

The *Veterinary Authority* should develop a plan to address the occurrence within the exporting country after the commodities have been exported, of a *listed disease* or a disease referred to in the importing country requirements, which may have impacted the status of the exported commodities. The *Veterinary Authority* should be guided by *importing country* requirements in implementing the plan.

The *Veterinary Authority* should ensure that the ~~operator~~ exporter develops **and documents** a plan to address ~~emergencies~~ **unexpected events** which may impact the ~~compliance status of the commodities with importing country requirements and animal welfare recommendations in Section 7.~~ **being exported, failure of transport arrangements.** The plan should address concerns such as deviation from the *journey plan*, **incidents compromising the characteristics of the commodities**, failure to reach the *transit* or *importing country*, or rejection of the consignment by them ~~transit or importing country~~. The emergency plan may be generic or specific to each consignment, and should focus on preserving the status of the consignment and *animal welfare* in accordance with Chapters 7.2., 7.3. and 7.4.

Japan	<p>Category: Change</p> <p>Proposed amended text:</p> <p>The Veterinary Authority should ensure, that the operator Operators should develop and documents a plan to address emergencies unexpected events which may impact the compliance status of the commodities with importing country requirements and animal welfare recommendations in Section 7. The Veterinary Authority should ensure that compliance of the commodities is maintained even in unexpected events.</p> <p>Rationale:</p> <p>The Veterinary Authority cannot ensure operators' development and documentation of a plan to address unexpected events because that is not a requirement for export. The Veterinary Authority should ensure the compliance of a commodity is maintained (e.g. a commodity is sealed even in an unexpected event).</p>
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The ~~emergency~~ plan should identify responsibility for development and communication of alternative transport arrangements when necessary. The relevant *Competent Authority* in the *exporting, transit* and *importing countries* should be consulted ~~as appropriate by the operator~~ regarding revised transport arrangements to assess the implications for the ~~compliance status of the commodities with importing country requirements and animal welfare recommendations.~~ The *Veterinary Authority* in the *exporting country* should be consulted on alternative transport arrangements for consignments of *animals* to ensure that *animal welfare* is preserved.

The ~~emergency~~ plan should include procedures for managing exported consignments that fail to reach the designated *transit* or *importing countries* or are rejected by them.

CHAPTER 5.5.

MEASURES AND PROCEDURES APPLICABLE TO THE TRANSIT OF COMMODITIES

[...]

Article 5.5.3.

General principles applicable to procedures for official controls for transit

The *Veterinary Authority* or other relevant *Competent Authorities* should implement official inspection, with appropriate frequency, based on risk and ~~with appropriate frequency~~ to ensure compliance with the *transit country* requirements. By way of derogation, the *Veterinary Authority* may exempt from inspection *safe commodities* or *commodities* posing a negligible risk and for which inspection is not considered necessary.

A *transit country* may not accept the transit of *commodities* not complying with its requirements.

The *Veterinary Authority* or other relevant *Competent Authorities* should ensure that conditions included in the *international veterinary certificate* at origin are maintained during official controls, stopover, storage and transport, that *biosecurity* is applied to prevent transmission of pathogenic agents throughout the transit process and that unnecessary delays are avoided. They should also ensure *animal welfare* is maintained during *transit* in accordance with Section 7. Original documentation intended for the *importing country* should remain with the consignment.

Japan	<p>Category: Addition</p> <p>Proposed amended text:</p> <p>The <i>Veterinary Authority</i> or other relevant <i>Competent Authorities</i> <u>of the exporting and the transit country</u>, should ensure that conditions included in the <i>international veterinary certificate</i> at origin are maintained during official controls, stopover, storage and transport, that <i>biosecurity</i> is applied to prevent transmission of pathogenic agents throughout the transit process and that unnecessary delays are avoided. <u>They should also ensure <i>animal welfare</i> is maintained during <i>transit</i> in accordance with Section 7.</u> Original documentation intended for the <i>importing country</i> should remain with the consignment.</p> <p>Rationale:</p> <p>For clarity purposes</p>
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Article 5.5.4.

Planning for the unexpected events

The *Veterinary Authority* or other relevant *Competent Authorities* should ensure that the operator develops and documents a plan to address unexpected events which may compromise the compliance of the transited *commodities* with the requirements of the *transit country* or the *importing country*. The plan may be generic, or specific to each consignment, and should focus on preventing the introduction to the *transit or the importing country* of a *listed disease* or a disease referred to in the *transit or the importing country* requirements, and on ensuring *animal welfare* recommendations in Section 7. The plan should identify responsibilities and include procedures for commodities not complying with the *transit or the importing country* requirements.

Japan	<p>Category: Change</p> <p>Proposed amended text:</p> <p>The Veterinary Authority or other relevant Competent Authorities should ensure that the Operator <u>should</u> develops and documents a plan to address unexpected events which may compromise the compliance of the transited <i>commodities</i>, with the requirements of the <i>transit country</i> or the <i>importing country</i>. <u>The Veterinary Authority or other relevant Competent Authorities should ensure that compliance of the commodities is maintained even in unexpected events.</u></p> <p>Rationale:</p> <p>The Veterinary Authority cannot ensure operators' development and documentation of a plan to address unexpected events because that is not a requirement for transit. The Veterinary Authority should ensure the compliance of a commodity is maintained (e.g. a commodity is sealed even in an unexpected event).</p>
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[...]

CHAPTER 5.6.

MEASURES AND PROCEDURES APPLICABLE INTO THE IMPORTATION OF COMMODITIES

Article 5.6.1.

Purpose and scope

This chapter provides general principles for measures and procedures that are applicable to in the importation of *commodities* to prevent the spread of pathogenic agents through *international trade of commodities*, without creating unjustified trade restrictions, covering from ~~the time of arrival at the point of entry border of in~~ the *importing country* until clearance of *commodities*.

For the purposes of this chapter, 'operator' means any natural or legal entity or person responsible for transit of *commodities* subject to the provisions of this chapter.

Japan	<p>Category: Change</p> <p>Proposed amended text:</p> <p>For the purposes of this chapter, 'operator' means any natural or legal entity or person responsible for <u>import transit</u> of <i>commodities</i> subject to the provisions of this chapter.</p> <p>Rationale:</p> <p>This chapter relates to importation of commodities.</p>
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This chapter provides *importing countries* with recommendations on measures and procedures, and the roles and responsibilities of their *Veterinary Authority* and other relevant Competent Authorities, and of operators, any natural or legal entity or person responsible for import of commodities subject to the provisions of this chapter business operators (hereafter 'operator'), in addition to responsibilities that are described in Article 5.1.2. This chapter provides guidance to ensure the quality and implementation performance of official controls for importation. This chapter not only covers legal importation, but also provides general recommendations for illegal or informal entry of commodities.

~~The animal health status of the importing country or zone is not affected by the presence of disease or infection in imported animals in a quarantine centre or at a border inspection post.~~

[...]

Article 5.6.3.

General principles applicable to procedures for import official controls for importation

Veterinary Authority or other relevant Competent Authorities should ~~take control of~~ the imported *commodities* to ~~decide~~ determine whether ~~or not~~ the consignment complies with the *importing country* requirements.

Import-Official controls should be ~~performed~~ implemented at an appropriate place which might include a *border inspection post*, a point of entry, *quarantine centre*, the place of destination, or premises of the operator responsible for the consignment. The consignment should remain under the control of the *Veterinary Authority* or other relevant Competent Authorities until formal clearance.

In case of emergency, ships and aircrafts may be granted access to a port or airport ~~which that~~ are not their intended destination. In those cases, they should be subjected to the animal health and animal welfare measures which the *Veterinary Authority* or other relevant Competent Authorities may consider necessary based on the potential risk.

1. Official inspection

Where official inspections of *commodities* are ~~performed~~ implemented, they should always include a documentary check and, depending on the risk to human health, and animal health and or animal welfare, should also include identity checks and physical inspection checks. When the ~~Veterinary Authority or other Competent Authorities~~ Services needs to have full access to the consignment for the purpose of identity checks or physical inspection, consignments should be partially or fully unloaded from the means of transport.

a) Documentary check

A documentary check should be ~~implemented~~ performed on all consignments presented for official ~~controls inspection~~ to ensure that they meet the *importing country* requirements.

~~A~~ D documentary check should include examination of the *international veterinary certificate*, and possibly of laboratory reports or other documents, including those of a commercial nature, which are required to accompany the consignment.

When ~~implementing~~ performing a documentary check, the ~~Veterinary Authority or other Competent Authorities~~ Services should inspect the required documents, in original or their digital equivalents as agreed between the *importing* and *exporting country*, to ensure that:

- i) the *international veterinary certificate* has been issued by the *Official Veterinarian* of the *exporting country*; complies with relevant principles set out in Article 5.2.3. and corresponds as relevant to the model ~~established~~ established by the importing country or agreed between the exporting and the importing country for that *commodity* and intended use, ~~based on Chapters 5.10. to 5.13.~~; and
- ii) the information contained in the checked documents complies with the *importing country* requirements.

b) Identity check

~~An~~ A identity check should be ~~implemented~~ performed upon arrival of ~~the~~ the consignment at the point of inspection, as a visual inspection to verify that the content and the labelling of a consignment, including the identification of *commodities*, seals and means of transport, correspond to the information declared in the *international veterinary certificate* and accompanying documents.

The frequency of identity checks, the quantity of *commodities* to be inspected as well as the criteria for ~~sampling selection for checking~~ should be determined by the *Veterinary Authority* or other relevant ~~Competent Authorities of the importing country~~ based on *risk assessment*.

c) Physical inspection

To verify compliance with importing country requirements and physical integrity. ~~P~~ P physical inspection should include, as appropriate:

- i) clinical examination of ~~an animal/s~~ the animal/s for evidence of ~~transmissible~~ transmissible diseases and *animal welfare* issues
- ii) ii) ~~and~~ physical checks of *animal products* and *germinal products*,
- iii) iii) ~~and, as appropriate,~~ checks on packaging and labelling,
- iv) iv) ~~checks on~~ the means of transport, ~~labelling~~ and temperature records,
- v) v) ~~the~~ sampling for analysis, testing or diagnosis, and
- vi) any other checks required by the *Veterinary Authority* or other relevant *Competent Authorities* to verify compliance with the *importing country* requirements.

The frequency of physical inspection, the quantity of *commodities* to be inspected as well as the criteria for sampling selection for physical inspection should be determined by the *Veterinary Authority* or other relevant Competent Authorities of the ~~importing country~~ based on risk assessment, and considering the following:-

i) For ~~a~~Animals

The ~~Veterinary Authority or other Competent Authorities of the importing country~~ should ~~determine the number of animals to be clinically examined~~ should be determined in accordance with the overall number of *animals* in the consignment and the declared purpose of the animals, ~~which it~~ may be increased if the physical checks carried out have not been satisfactory.

In some cases, such as ~~For animals that are not required to be identified individually and animals considered to be dangerous,~~ clinical examination ~~should~~ could consist of observation of the state of health and behaviour of the entire group or of a representative number of *animals*.

If the clinical examination reveals an anomaly, a more thorough clinical examination may be carried out, including sampling and testing, where appropriate.

ii) ~~Germinal~~ For germinal products

The ~~Veterinary Authority or other Competent Authorities~~ should carry out Physical checks of the consignment should be carried out to verify the compliance of labelling and the transport conditions with *importing country* requirements, including when relevant, temperature records ~~when relevant~~ and the integrity of the seals, packaging material and cryogenic tanks.

The ~~Veterinary Authority or other Competent Authorities of the importing country~~ should determine the number of items to be checked, which may be increased if the checks carried out have not been satisfactory.

The ~~Veterinary Authority or other Competent Authorities~~ may carry out physical checks to verify that the labelling complies with *importing country* requirements.

Physical inspection may include laboratory testing of the *germinal products*.

If the physical checks reveal an anomaly, a more thorough inspection may be carried out.

iii) For ~~A~~animal products

The ~~Veterinary Authority or other Competent Authorities~~ should carry out Physical checks of the consignment should be carried out to verify the compliance of labelling and the transport conditions with *importing country* requirements, including temperature records when relevant and the integrity of the packaging material and seals.

The ~~Veterinary Authority or other Competent Authorities~~ may carry out physical checks to verify that the labelling complies with *importing country* requirements.

Physical inspection may include sensory examination and laboratory testing of the *animal products*.

If the physical checks reveal an anomaly, a more thorough inspection may be carried out.

2. Sampling and testing

Sampling and testing of imported *commodities* with a view to checking compliance with the health importing country requirements ~~laid down in the international veterinary certificate~~, may be implemented ~~performed~~ following a risk-based sampling plan or upon suspicion of non-compliance

resulting from the documentary, identity or physical checks of *commodities*, without creating unjustified barriers to trade. Testing should be ~~implemented~~ performed in an ~~approved~~ laboratory.

Japan	<p>Category: Deletion</p> <p>Proposed amended text:</p> <p>Sampling and testing of imported <i>commodities</i> with a view to checking compliance with the health <u>importing country</u> requirements laid down in the <u>international veterinary certificate</u>, may be implemented performed following a risk-based sampling plan or upon suspicion of non-compliance resulting from the documentary, identity or physical checks of <i>commodities</i>, <u>without creating unjustified barriers to trade</u>. Testing should be implemented performed in an approved laboratory.</p> <p>Rationale:</p> <p>The principle of avoiding unjustified barriers to trade is already addressed in the first paragraph of Article 5.6.1. and it should apply in general.</p>
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The *Veterinary Authority* or other relevant Competent Authorities may develop a risk-based sampling plan for imported consignments, that should specify the percentage of consignments to be sampled, taking into account the animal health status of the importing and exporting country, the species concerned, the nature and declared purpose of the *commodities*, the number of incoming consignments and the results of previous sampling.

Where no immediate danger to animal health or public health is suspected from *commodities* sampled in accordance with a sampling plan, a consignment may be released before the results of laboratory tests are available. A traceability system should be in place to recall commodities if needed.

Japan	<p>Category: Change</p> <p>Proposed amended text:</p> <p>Where no immediate danger to animal health or public health is suspected from <i>commodities</i> sampled in accordance with a sampling plan, a consignment may be released before the results of laboratory tests are available. <u>A mechanism allowing recall commodities such as a traceability system should be in place to recall commodities if needed.</u></p> <p>Rationale:</p> <p>Even if a traceability system is not in place, commodities could be recalled.</p>
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3. Sanitary measures at import

To meet the *importing country* requirements, in addition to the *sanitary measures* implemented in the *exporting countries*, the *Veterinary Authority* or other relevant Competent Authorities of ~~importing country~~ may require *sanitary measures* to be implemented at importation before release of the *commodities* from official controls. Measures may include disinfection of and ~~disinsection~~ elimination of arthropod vectors from ~~of vehicles/vessels~~ means of transport and *containers* used in the transportation and *unloading* of *commodities*, in accordance with Chapter 4.14.

Japan	<p>Category: Editorial</p> <p>Proposed amended text:</p> <p>Measures may include <u>disinfection of</u> and disinsection <u>elimination of arthropod vectors from</u> of vehicles/vessels <u>means of transport</u> and <i>containers</i> used in the transportation and <i>unloading</i> of <i>commodities</i>, in accordance with Chapter 4.14.</p>
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In the case of *animals*, measures may include *vaccination*, treatment or isolation. In the case of other *commodities*, measures may include a holding period or the application of physical or chemical treatment.

4. Release of consignments

Based on the ~~implement~~performed import-official controls, the *Veterinary Authority* or other relevant Competent Authorities of importing countries should decide whether the consignment complies with the *importing country* requirements.

When the decision is made that the consignment complies with the *importing country* requirements and has been cleared for release, the *Veterinary Authority* or other relevant Competent Authorities should notify the ~~operator~~importer and the information should be made available to the customs authorities.

Article 5.6.4.

Further action for non-compliant commodities

Commodities identified as non-compliant based on the ~~implement~~performed import-official controls should not be released by the *Veterinary Authority* or other relevant Competent Authorities and should be ~~isolated~~detained under appropriate conditions including isolation for animals, pending further decision ~~by the Competent Authority~~.

Depending on the type of *commodity* and the *risk* the *commodity* represents to human health and animal health, and the environment, or ~~for due to~~ *animal welfare* reasons, the *Veterinary Authority* or other relevant Competent Authorities, should identify the options for the disposition of the *commodities* and notify the ~~operator~~importer. Disposition of *commodities* may include:

- a) ~~re-dispatching~~ re-shipping the *commodity* back to the *exporting country* or another country, with the agreement, where appropriate, of the receiving *Competent Authority*;
- b) subjecting the *commodity* to treatment or to other risk mitigation measures necessary to allow importation;
- c) *killing* and disposal of *animals*, or destruction of other *commodities*.

Any action applied to consignments of *animals* should comply with ~~Chapters 7.1. and 7.6.~~the relevant provisions of Section 7.

The *Veterinary Authority* or other relevant Competent Authorities of the *importing country* should notify any decision and reasons to refuse entry of a *commodity* to the customs authorities and are encouraged to communicate it to the *Veterinary Authority* of the *exporting country*. Where appropriate, the Veterinary Authority of the exporting country should be given the opportunity to explain the situation in an attempt to have the consignment released.

Following decisions taken in relation to non-compliant *commodities*, the *Veterinary Authority* or other relevant Competent Authorities should supervise the effective disposition of the *commodities* and apply measures to prevent the introduction into the country of *commodities* which have been refused import, and the reuse of the *international veterinary certificate* that accompanied the consignment.

The Veterinary Authority or other relevant Competent Authority of the importing country should inform the exporting country of any case of a listed disease or disease referred to in the importing country requirements in a consignment of animals.

Japan	<p>Category: Addition</p> <p>Proposed amended text: <u>The Veterinary Authority or other relevant Competent Authority of the importing country should inform the exporting country of any relevant case of a listed disease or disease referred to in the importing country requirements in a consignment of animals.</u></p> <p>Rationale: There are cases where animals are regarded as a safe commodity (e.g. an infection of equids with eastern equine encephalitis virus or western equine encephalitis virus). In addition, there are cases where conditions for notification is defined between importing and exporting countries.</p>
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[...]

Article 5.6.8.

General recommendations on measures to address identified illegal movement of commodities at border inspection posts

To control the risks posed by illegal cross-border movement at *border inspection posts*, the *Veterinary Authority* or other relevant ~~law enforcement~~ Competent Authorities should coordinate and cooperate closely with the customs authority to ensure that the official controls inspection of for commodities entering the country are is implemented performed in accordance with the rules of this chapter and national legislation, including when fraud is suspected.

Japan	<p>Category: Editorial</p> <p>Proposed amended text: To control the risks posed by illegal cross-border movement at <i>border inspection posts</i>, the <i>Veterinary Authority</i> or other <u>relevant law enforcement Competent Authorities</u> should coordinate and cooperate closely with the customs authority <u>and other relevant law enforcement authority</u> to ensure that the official <u>controls inspection of for commodities</u> entering the country <u>are is implemented performed</u> in accordance with the rules of this chapter and national legislation, <u>including when fraud is suspected</u>.</p> <p>Rationale: For consistency with wording within this article.</p>
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For that purpose, the *Veterinary Authority* or other relevant Competent Authorities should ensure the timely exchange with the customs and other relevant law enforcement authority, including via electronic means, of information and decisions made relevant to the organisation and conduct of their respective activities for *commodities* entering the country. The *Veterinary Authority* or other relevant Competent Authorities should collaborate with the customs and other relevant law enforcement authority to ensure immediate notification to the *Veterinary Authority* or other relevant Competent Authorities if of circumstances where a declaration is submitted to the customs authority for a consignment of those categories of commodities that should be subject to official inspection control but with no evidence of an official inspection control having been conducted.

The *Veterinary Authority* or other relevant Competent Authorities, in collaboration with the customs and other relevant law enforcement authorities, should have practical arrangements in place to ensure ~~the~~ implementation of the measures described in Article 5.6.4. in case of detection of illegal cross-border movement of *commodities* at a *border inspection post*.

[...]

CHAPTER 5.7.

BORDER INSPECTION POSTS AND QUARANTINE CENTRES

[...]

Article 5.7.5.

Additional requirements for a border inspection post for animals

In addition to the principles described in Article 5.7.4., a *border inspection post* for consignments of *animals* should be designed and operate in accordance with *animal welfare* principles in Section 7 and should specifically include the following:

- 1) Separate access to restricted animal inspection areas via road infrastructure, to minimise delays.
- 2) Facilities necessary for the management of consignments of *animals* according to Article 5.6.3, including containment, feeding, watering, restraint and inspection, consistent with the type and number of *animals* presented.
- 3) Facilities for temporarily holding *animals*, with adequate space, light, ventilation and separation as appropriate between consignments and species.
- 4) Separate facilities to isolate sick animals.

Japan	<p>Category: Addition</p> <p>Proposed amended text:</p> <p><u>4) Separate facilities to isolate sick animals if needed.</u></p> <p>Rationale:</p> <p>When a sick animal is found, it will be transported immediately to quarantine centres without staying in a border inspection post. In that case, there is no need for separate facilities to isolate sick animals.</p>
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- 5) Animal waste management for dead animals, discarded feed, solid and liquid waste and used bedding.

[...]

CHAPTER 7.6.

ANIMAL WELFARE AT THE TIME OF KILLING FOR PURPOSES OTHER THAN SLAUGHTER

[...]

Article 7.6.3.

General principles ~~for the operations regarding the killing of animals~~

The decision as to whether to kill animals should not be delayed if there is any risk to the welfare of those animals. The recommendations in this Chapter are based on the premise that a decision to kill the animals has been made and they address the need to ensure the welfare of the animals until they are dead.

During decision making and prior to *killing* the animals, appropriate husbandry, especially supply of feed and water and thermal comfort, should be maintained until the animals are killed. Medical care should be provided if needed.

Advanced planning for various scenarios, including adverse events, should clearly identify operational procedures and responsibilities.

For large scale killing, specific plans should be in place.

The decision maker should be clearly identified to ensure decision making is not delayed.

All personnel involved in the killing of animals should have the relevant skills and competencies, acquired through training or experience.

As necessary, operational procedures should be evidence-based adapted to the specific circumstances in the affected locations or on the premises and should address, apart from animal welfare, the cost, effectiveness, and the speed of implementation of the method. operators' safety and mental health, biosecurity and environmental aspects relevant to the species.

~~During decision making and prior to killing the animals, normal husbandry, especially supply of feed and water, should be maintained until the animals are killed.~~

Animals might be killed on site or moved to a dedicated place for killing. The handling and movement of animals should be minimised and carried out in accordance with the recommendations described below.

When restraint is required ~~Animal restraint~~ it should be sufficient to facilitate effective killing, and in accordance with animal welfare and operator safety requirements. ~~When restraint is required, and~~ killing should follow without minimal delay. The type and size of restraint deployed should be appropriate for the age, size and species of animal to be killed. When herding or corralling is applied, a low-stress method using appropriate apparatus to facilitate the safe and effective killing of animals should be used.

Killing methods used should result in immediate death or loss of consciousness lasting until death. When loss of consciousness is not immediate, induction of unconsciousness ~~should involve as little aversion as possible~~ and should not cause avoidable distress, fear and pain. A backup procedure should be available and used to kill the animal if the first method does not result in death or unconsciousness.

~~Young animals should be killed before older animals on which they are dependent to reduce potential distress.~~

Planning should take into account the order in which animals are killed. Where possible vulnerable animals should be killed as a matter of priority, which may include:

- groups with symptomatic animals,
- animals that are unable to obtain feed or water,
- animals that have compromised housing or are without shelter,

- young [REF] or unweaned animals should be killed before older animals on which they are dependent,
- potentially dangerous or aggressive animals, such as bulls, sows with litters, or boars,
- animals in late stage of pregnancy or in parturition, and
- animals in-utero may need to be humanely killed following the killing of the dam if the amniotic sac is ruptured.

For disease control purposes and for biosecurity considerations, infected animals should be killed first, followed by in-contact animals, and then remaining animals.

There should be continuous monitoring of the operational procedures to ensure they are consistently effective regarding animal welfare, operator safety and mental health and, biosecurity and environmental aspects.

When large scale or disease control ~~the~~ operational procedures are concluded, there should be a debriefing session or written report describing the practices adopted and their effect on animal welfare, operator safety, *biosecurity and responsible personnel.*

Japan	<p>Category: General</p> <p>Proposed amended text:</p> <p><u>In emergency situations, it may be difficult to ensure that all animal welfare considerations are taken into account.</u></p> <p>Rationale:</p> <p>Firstly, Japan thanks the Code commission for its work on revising this chapter.</p> <p>Japan understands that animal welfare should be considered when killing animals for any reasons, however, available resources in the situation of disasters are fewer than the situation of disease outbreaks, and priorities will differ in each situation. It is questionable whether it would be appropriate to combine killing for all purposes other than slaughter in one chapter.</p> <p>If the chapter should be one, the following sentence should be included in general principles; “In emergency situations, it may be difficult to ensure that all animal welfare considerations are taken into account.”</p>
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Article 7.6.4.

Organisational structure for the operations regarding the of large scale killing or killing for disease control of animals

Plans for large scale killing or killing for disease control should contain details of responsibilities, management structure, contact details, disease control strategies, operational procedures and necessary equipment and resources. Animal welfare considerations should always be addressed as a priority in these plans. The plans should include a strategy to ensure that an adequate number of personnel competent in the killing of animals is available.

Japan	<p>Category: Deletion</p> <p>Proposed amended text:</p> <p><u>Plans for large scale killing or killing for disease control should contain details of responsibilities, management structure, contact details, disease control strategies, operational procedures and necessary equipment and resources. <i>Animal welfare</i> considerations should <u>always</u> be addressed as a priority in these plans. The plans should include a strategy to ensure that an adequate number of personnel competent in the <i>killing</i> of animals is available.</u></p> <p>Rationale:</p> <p>Animal welfare considerations cannot always be a priority, especially in unforeseeable earthquakes and other disaster emergencies.</p>
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The personnel responsible for the handling, moving, restraining and killing the animals should follow the recommendations of this chapter.

In case of disease control, oOperational activities should be led by the *Competent authority* who has the authority to ensure the required *animal welfare* and *biosecurity* standards.

The Competent authority should nominate a responsible agent for all activities across one or more affected locations or premises who should be supported by coordinators for planning operations and logistics to facilitate efficient operations.

The nominated responsible agent of the Competent authority should provide overall guidance to personnel and logistic support for operations at all affected locations or premises to ensure consistency in adherence to the *Terrestrial Code's animal welfare* and animal health recommendations.

A specialist team, led by a team leader answerable to the nominated responsible agent nominated by the Competent Authority, should be deployed to work on each affected location or premises. In some situations, When needed personnel may be required to fulfil more than one function. Each team should contain a competent *veterinarian* or have access to veterinary advice at all times.

Emergency plans should be in place and contain details of responsibilities, management structure, disease control strategies, operational procedures and necessary equipment and resources. *Animal welfare* considerations should always be addressed in these emergency plans. The plans should include a strategy to ensure that an adequate number of personnel competent in the *killing* of animals is available.

Depopulation under disease control emergency plans should be performed under the supervision of Competent Authority and address any *animal welfare* issues that may result from standstill or any other animal movement restriction.

In considering the *animal welfare* issues associated with *killing* animals, the key personnel, their responsibilities, and competencies required are described in Article 7.6.5.

In other situations that do not necessarily involve the *Competent Authority*, the personnel responsible should follow the recommendations of this chapter.

Article 7.6.5.

Responsibilities, training and competencies of the specialist team for the operations regarding the mass killing of animals

All personnel have a crucial role to play in ensuring good animal welfare conditions through to the killing. Training for all personnel should emphasise the importance of animal welfare and their responsibility in contributing to the welfare of the animals.

Competencies may be gained through a combination of formal training and practical experience. These competencies should be assessed by the *Competent Authority* or by an independent body recognised by the *Competent Authority*

Japan	<p>Category: Deletion</p> <p>Proposed amended text:</p> <p>Competencies may be gained through a combination of formal training and practical experience. <u>These competencies should be assessed by the Competent Authority or by an independent body recognised by the Competent Authority</u></p> <p>Rationale:</p> <p>It is difficult to assess the competence of all personnel, including animal handlers and personnel in charge of killing animals in a country, if the specialist team includes all of the following parties. In addition, in emergency situations the team could include all kinds of people, and it is difficult to assess the competencies of all of them.</p>
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1. Team leader

a) Responsibilities

- (i) plan overall operations on affected location or premises;
- (ii) determine and address requirements for *animal welfare*, operator safety and *biosecurity*;
- (iii) organise and manage team of people to facilitate *killing* of the relevant animals on the location or premises in accordance with national regulations and these recommendations;
- (iv) determine logistics required;
- (v) monitor operations to ensure *animal welfare*, operator safety and *biosecurity* requirements are met;
- (vi) seek and use veterinary advice;
- (vii) report upwards on progress and problems;
- (viii) provide a written report at the conclusion of the *killing* operation, describing the practices adopted and their effect on *animal welfare*, operator safety, efficacy of *biosecurity* and environmental impact.

b) Training and cCCompetencies

- i) knowledge understanding of and experience with relevant animal husbandry practices;
- ii) knowledge understanding of *animal welfare*, impact of , different killing methods, and the details, planning and implementation of the *killing* operation, and the underpinning behavioural, anatomical and physiological processes involved in the *killing* operation;
- iii) leadership and ability to skills to manage all activities on the location or premises and deliver outcomes on time;
- iv) awareness of psychological effects on farmer, team members or person(s) in charge of animals [AVMA, 2019], and general public;
- iv) v) awareness of fatigue effects on those carrying out repeated killing of large numbers of animals and on the effectiveness of the procedure [AVMA, 2019].
- iv) vi) ability to communicate effectively with different audiences communication skills;
- vi) vii) capacity to evaluate the environmental impacts caused by their operation.

2. Veterinarian

a) Responsibilities

- i) advise on determine and supervise the implementation of the most appropriate *killing* method to ensure that animals are killed without avoidable pain and distress minimising pain, fear and suffering;
- ii) determine and implement any necessary the additional requirements for *animal welfare*, including the order of *killing*;
- iii) ensure that confirmation of the *death* of the animals is carried out by competent persons as soon as possible at appropriate times after the *killing* procedure;
- iv) minimise the risk of disease spread within and from the location or premises through the supervision of *biosecurity*;
- v) continuously monitor ensuring *animal welfare* and *biosecurity* during killing process;
- vi) collaborate with the team leader on the written report at the conclusion of the *killing*.

b) Training and cCompetencies

- i) understanding of ability to assess animal welfare and ability to assess it;
- ii) Understanding knowledge of especially the effectiveness of the killing process and the ability to correct any deficiencies;
- iii) knowledge of the different killing methods and their impacts on animal welfare, and the underlying anatomy, physiological and behavioural processes involved in the killing operation.
- iv) ability to assess *biosecurity* risks.

3. Animal handlers

a) Responsibilities

- i) review on-site facilities in terms of their appropriateness;
- ii) design temporary animal handling facilities, when required;
- iii) move and restrain animals;
- iv) report *animal welfare* and *biosecurity* issues to the *veterinarian*.

b) Training and cCompetencies

- i) understand the species-specific behavioural patterns of the animals they are working with and the underlying principles for carrying out the required tasks;
- ii) animal handling in emergency situations and in close confinement is required; capable to identify signs of distress, fear, and pain and to take preventive and corrective actions;
- iii) understanding of *biosecurity*.

4. Personnel in charge of killing animals

a) Responsibilities

- i) *killing* of the animals using an appropriate method;
- ii) when applicable confirm the unconsciousness of the animals;
- iii) confirm the death of the animals.

b) Training and cCompetencies

- i) Safely and correctly use and maintain ance of relevant equipment;

- ii) Operate familiarity with the techniques of restraining and killing equipment for the species involved;
- iii) knowledge ability to assess effective killing, to recognize signs of recovery of consciousness, and the skill to take immediate corrective action:

5. Personnel in charge of disposal of dead animals

a) Responsibilities

- i) An ensuring efficient dead animal disposal so that (to ensure killing operations are not hindered) should be ensured
- ii) understanding of biosecurity and ensuring compliance with Chapter 4.13

b) Training and Competencies

- i) The personnel should be competent to safely use and maintain available equipment and apply techniques for the species involved.:
- ii) Recognise signs of life.

Japan	<p>Category: Addition</p> <p>Proposed amended text:</p> <p><u>5. Personnel in charge of disposal of dead animals</u></p> <p><u>a) Responsibilities</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) <u>An ensuring efficient dead animal disposal so that (to ensure killing operations are not hindered) should be ensured</u> ii) <u>understanding of biosecurity and ensuring compliance with Chapter 4.13</u> <p><u>b) Training and Competencies</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) <u>The personnel should be competent to safely use and maintain available equipment and apply techniques for the species involved.:</u> ii) <u>Recognise signs of life.</u> <p>Rationale:</p> <p>Japan seeks to understand the rationale behind the deletion of these point. These points will also be important in considering the killing procedure as this chapter refers not only to animal welfare, but also to operator safety and mental health, biosecurity and environmental aspects (Article 7.6.3 “General Principles”).</p>
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5. Breeder, owner, farmer or keeper or manager

a) Responsibilities

- i) assist when requested.

b) Training and cCompetencies

- i) specific knowledge of his/her the animals that are they are responsible for and their environment premises.

Article 7.6.6.

Considerations in the planning of the operations regarding the ~~mass~~ **large scale** killing of animals

Many activities will need to be conducted on affected locations or premises, including the *killing* of animals. The team leader should develop a plan **and prepare** for **large scale killing of** animals on the location or premises which should include consideration of:

- a) minimising handling, **restraint** and movement of animals;
- b) *killing* the animals on the affected location or premises; however, there may be circumstances where the animals may need to be moved to another location for *killing*; when the *killing* is conducted at a *slaughterhouse/abattoir*, the recommendations in Chapter 7.5. should be followed;
- c) the species, number, age and size of animals to be killed, and the order of *killing* them;
- d) methods of *killing* the animals, **and their cost**;
- e) **available resources, including cost, staff numbers, and any other practical elements**
- f) **description of the assessment of state of consciousness and signs of life**;
- g) housing, husbandry, location of the animals as well as accessibility of ~~the farm or~~ the place they are situated;
- h) the availability and effectiveness of equipment needed for *killing* of the animals, as well as the time necessary to kill the required number of animals using such methods;
- i) the availability on the locations or premises of facilities that will **be used to** assist with the *killing*, and the necessity of any additional facilities;
- j) potential *biosecurity* and environmental impact of the operations;
- k) the health and safety of personnel conducting the *killing*;
- ~~l) any legal issues that may be involved, for example where restricted veterinary drugs may be used, or where the process may impact on the environment;~~
- ~~m) the presence of other nearby premises holding animals;~~
- ~~n) possibilities for removal and disposal of dead animals.~~

Japan	<p>Category: Addition</p> <p>Proposed amended text:</p> <p>l) any legal issues that may be involved, for example where restricted veterinary drugs may be used, or where the process may impact on the environment;</p> <p>m) the presence of other nearby premises holding animals;</p> <p>n) possibilities for removal and disposal of dead animals.</p> <p>Rationale:</p> <p>Japan seeks to understand the rationale behind the deletion of these point. These points will also be important in considering the killing procedure as this chapter refers not only to animal welfare, but also to operator safety and mental health, biosecurity and environmental aspects (Article 7.6.3 “General Principles”).</p>
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The plan should minimise the negative animal welfare impacts of the *killing* by taking into account the different phases of the procedures to be applied for *killing*.

Competences and skills of the personnel handling and *killing* animals should be included in the operational plan.

[...]

Article 7.6.9.

Handling of animals

Handling is the process of preparation of the animals for killing, and may include moving them to the killing point. Handling and moving can be stressful to animals, especially when they are isolated out of their primary home area or from their group. [Gavinelli et al. ,2014].

1. Animal welfare concerns

Exposure to novel environments (e.g. noise, lighting, flooring, smell) may cause fear and reluctance to move, or turning back. Poorly designed facilities and inappropriate handling (e.g. inappropriate use of electrical goads, kicking, hitting with a stick) will cause *distress*, fear and *pain*.

2. Animal-based and other measures:

- a) animals slipping, falling and piling up;
- b) animals turning around or moving backwards, attempting to escape or reluctant to move;
- c) animals vocalising;
- d) animals that collide with facility structures;
- e) animals with broken or otherwise injured limbs;
- f) animals that are unable to move by themselves due to reasons other than broken or injured limbs;
- g) use of force by personnel;
- h) inappropriate use of electrical goads.

Japan	Category: Addition Proposed amended text: <u>h) inappropriate handling by personnel such as inappropriate use of electrical goads.</u> Rationale: “Inappropriate use of electrical goads” is an example of inappropriate handling by personnel, which is stated in paragraph 1, and other ways of inappropriate handling should also be considered.
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3. Recommendations

Japan	Category: General Rationale: Given that this chapter will cover killing for a variety of reasons including natural or man-made human-made disasters and killing may be carried out in a variety of locations, the meaning of “facilities” is not clear. For example, a natural disaster destroys barns or shelters, there would be no facility at the location.
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Design of the facilities should promote the natural movements of animals, and, as far as possible, minimise human interaction.

Floor should be clean, dry and not slippery.

Raceways should be well lit so that animals can see where they are going.

The design of raceways should minimise distractions that may cause animals to stop, baulk or turn back (e.g. shadows, changes in flooring, moving objects, loud or sudden noises).

Animals that are injured, sick or unable to rise require immediate action and, when necessary, emergency *killing* should be performed without moving them and without delay. Animals should not be dragged, nor should they be lifted or handled in a way that might cause further *pain* and suffering or exacerbate injuries.

Personnel should be calm and patient, assisting animals to move using a soft voice and slow movements.

Animals should be moved in groups as this decreases fear and makes use of their natural tendency to follow other animals.

Handling aids such as panels or flags should be used in a manner to encourage and direct movement of the animals without causing *distress*, fear or *pain*.

Electric goads should not be used routinely, but only when other measures have been ineffective, the animal has no injury or other condition and there is room for the animal to move forward.

Only low-voltage goads should be applied to the hindquarters of adult pigs and large ruminants, and never to sensitive areas such as the eyes, mouth, ears, ano-genital region, udders or belly. Such instruments should not be used on equids, camelids, ratites, sheep and goats, pregnant animals or on calves or piglets. Shocks should not be used repeatedly if the animal fails to respond and should not last longer than one second.

The manual lifting of animals should be avoided; if it is necessary, animals should not be grasped or lifted in a manner which causes *pain* or suffering and physical damage (e.g. bruising, fractures, dislocations).

Animals should not be forced to move at a speed greater than their normal walking pace to minimise injury through slipping or falling.

Article 7.6.10.

Killing Methods

The following killing methods are globally available and in use. The main purpose of this part of the chapter is to ensure that where killing methods are in use that they are undertaken in a manner that optimises animal welfare.

Japan	<p>Category: Change</p> <p>Proposed amended text:</p> <p>The following killing methods are globally-probably available and in use. The main purpose of this part of the chapter is to ensure that where killing methods are in use that they are undertaken in a manner that optimises animal welfare.</p> <p>Rationale:</p> <p>Not all the killing methods are available globally; for example, the use of firearms is prohibited in some countries.</p>
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For each killing method the description of the killing method and its use in animal species, animal welfare concerns, identification of animal-based and other welfare measures, recommendations for effective use to optimise welfare, and any species-specific recommendations are presented in Articles 7.6.11. to 7.6.32.

Standard operating procedures should be in place that define key operating parameters and follow the manufacturer's recommendations for stunning or killing.

The killing methods covered are divided into two broad categories. Manual, individual killing methods which involve a human operator or operators manually performing a killing procedure on individual animals (Articles

7.6.11. to 7.6.22.); and automated large scale killing methods which involve automated procedures for large scale killing of many animals either sequentially (e.g. water baths) or simultaneously (e.g. atmospheric modification) (Articles 7.6.23. to 7.6.32).

Article 7.6.11.

Firearms

Japan	Category: General Rationale: Operator safety should be included in this article as other articles such as Article 7.6.12 and 7.6.14 state it.
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Firearms that fire free projectiles such as a shotgun, rifle, or handgun can provide a quick and effective method for killing when used properly. They require minimal or no restraint and can be used to kill from a distance by properly trained and competent marksmen or markswomen.

A firearm can be used from long range and may be aimed to penetrate the skull or soft tissue at the top of the neck of the animals (high neck shot) and to cause irreversible concussion and death and should only be used by properly trained and competent marksmen. The firearm may also be aimed to penetrate the thoracic cavity and heart causing respiratory and heart failure and death.

Japan	Category: Change Proposed amended text: Firearms that fire free projectiles such as a shotgun, rifle, or handgun can provide a quick and effective method for killing when used properly. They require minimal or no restraint and can be used to kill from a distance by properly trained and competent marksmen or markswomen <u>shooter</u> . A firearm can be used from long range and may be aimed to penetrate the skull or soft tissue at the top of the neck of the animals (high neck shot) and to cause irreversible concussion and death and should only be used by properly trained and competent marksmen <u>shooter</u> . The firearm may also be aimed to penetrate the thoracic cavity and heart causing respiratory and heart failure and death. Rationale: Gender equality should be considered, but the descriptions should be consistent.
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1. Animal Welfare Concerns

This method has the potential for non-lethal wounding of the target animal and lethal or non-lethal wounding of non-target animals. This may occur because of inappropriate cartridge, calibre or type of bullet or incorrect shooting position.

2. Animal-based and other measures

Animal-based measures of an effective shot include [HSA, 2016b]:

- a) immediate collapse
- b) apnoea
- c) carcass appearance (tonic or relaxed)
- d) duration of convulsions
- e) absence of eye movement

- f) glazed expression
- g) absence of corneal reflex

3. Recommendations

Firearms and ammunition should be selected based on the species and the distance to shoot the animals. The correct cartridge, calibre and type of bullet for the different species age and size should be used.

Firearms are suitable for killing agitated animals in open spaces.

Firearms should not be used if trying to preserve brain tissue for diagnosis of diseases or when leakage of body fluids may present a biosecurity risk.

Training is essential for ensuring effective killing with firearms. This training must include approaches that ensure skilled marksmanship; an understanding of safety principles, animal anatomy, animal behaviour; animal handling; use of appropriate combinations of firearms and bullets for the intended purpose; and appropriate judgment under field conditions.

Japan	<p>Category: Change</p> <p>Proposed amended text:</p> <p>Training is essential for ensuring effective killing with firearms. This training must <u>should</u> include approaches that ensure skilled marksmanship; an understanding of safety principles, animal anatomy, animal behaviour; animal handling; use of appropriate combinations of firearms and bullets for the intended purpose; and appropriate judgment under field conditions.</p> <p>Rationale:</p> <p>WOAH standards are recommendations for member countries and “should” should be used in this regard.</p>
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At short range, the marksman or markswoman should ensure that the animal is not moving and in the correct position to enable accurate targeting and the range should be as short as possible (5–50 cm for a shotgun) but the barrel should not be in contact with the head or other part of the animals.

Animals that are not killed by the initial shot, should be re-shot or killed by a backup method.

The method is suitable for all species covered by this chapter.

4. Species-specific recommendations

None identified

Article 7.6.12.

Penetrating captive bolt

The aim of this method is to produce a state of unconsciousness and cause severe damage to the brain by the impact and penetration of a captive bolt using a mechanical device. The captive bolt should be positioned on the skull to penetrate the cortex and mid-brain of the animal. The force of impact and the physical damage caused by the passage of the bolt should result in immediate unconsciousness. Physical damage to the brain caused by penetration of the bolt may result in death; however, a secondary intervention such as pithing, bleeding or lethal injection should be performed as soon as possible after the shot to ensure the death of the animal.

A penetrating captive bolt is fired from a gun powered by either compressed air or a blank cartridge, designed to fire a retractable metal bolt into the animal's cranium. The bolt should be recessed into the body of the pistol to get the proper velocity required to penetrate the skull of the animal.

1. Animal welfare concerns

An incorrect shooting position or incorrect captive bolt parameters (not hitting the skull with sufficient force) will mis-stun the animal, leaving it conscious and leading to serious wounds and consequently distress, fear and pain.

Regaining of consciousness before death due to delay in applying the secondary intervention.

2. Animal-based and other measures

Animal-based measures of an effective shot include:

- a) immediate collapse
- b) apnoea
- c) tonic seizures
- d) absence of eye movement
- e) absence of corneal reflex
- f) absence of palpebral reflex
- g) absence of righting reflex

3. Recommendations

For cartridge powered and compressed air guns, the bolt velocity and the length of the bolt should be appropriate to the species and type of animal, in accordance with the recommendations of the manufacturer.

Captive bolt guns should be frequently cleaned and maintained in good working condition. Regular check-up of the bolt velocity is recommended for effective stunning, operator safety, and improved animal welfare.

More than one gun may be necessary to avoid overheating with repeated use, and a back-up gun should be available in the event of an ineffective shot.

Animals should be restrained and the operator should ensure that the head of the animal is accessible. The method is difficult to apply in agitated animals.

Proper positioning of the captive bolt equipment is required as incorrect positioning causes inefficient stunning leading to pain and distress in animals.

Animal-based measures should be monitored continuously after application until *death* to ensure the absence of brain stem reflexes.

Japan	<p>Category: Change</p> <p>Proposed amended text:</p> <p><u>From the perspective of a</u>Animal-based measures, <u>animal</u> should be monitored continuously after application until <i>death</i> to ensure the absence of brain stem reflexes.</p> <p>Rationale:</p> <p>Animal-based indicators are the point of focus, and the object of monitoring is “animals”.</p>
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Suitable training and experience of operators in the application of captive bolt pistol, ergonomics and workload conditions should be considered for reducing fatigue in operators.

Penetrating captive bolt should not be used if preservation of brain tissue for diagnosis of diseases or when leakage of body fluids may present a biosecurity risk.

The secondary intervention should be performed without delay after the shot to ensure the death of the animal.

The method is suitable for equids, camelids, cattle, sheep, goats, pigs, poultry, ratites, rabbits and *captive wild animals*.

4. Species-specific recommendations

The size of the skulls and the thickness of the skull bones should be taken into account when selecting parameters such as bolt diameter, bolt length and cartridge power in penetrative captive bolt stunning.

Heavily horned animals should be stunned with penetrative captive bolt in the occipital position using a heavy-duty contact-fired captive bolt gun directed forward at the nose.

In new world camelids the device should be placed at the crown position (highest point on the head) aiming downward to the base of the jaw [AVMA, 2020].

In turkeys the placement of the device should be directly on the midline of the skull and at the highest/widest point of the head with the captive bolt aimed directly down toward the brain.

In chickens (and poultry with comb development) the placement should be directly behind the comb and on the midline of the skull with the captive bolt aimed directly down.

In ratites a device with a short penetrating bolt and the smallest charge appropriate for poultry or rabbits should be applied to the top of the head at the midpoint of an imaginary line between the outer “ear” openings.

Article 7.6.13.

Pithing

Pithing is not a standalone killing or stunning method, it's a secondary method of *killing* animals which have been stunned by a penetrating captive bolt, without immediate *death*.

Pithing physically disrupts the central nervous system by the insertion of a flexible rod. The rod can be inserted caudally through the brain stem and spinal cord following stunning by penetrative captive bolt or cranially through the spinal cord and brain stem following decapitation. Pithing can be used as a primary killing method for animals which have been stunned by a penetrating captive bolt, without immediate death or as a secondary method to ensure rapid death.

1. Animal welfare concerns

Since pithing is not a killing method, but rather an adjunct method, it doesn't have any welfare concerns of its own. However, it shares the welfare concerns of the primary method of killing or stunning.

2. Animal-based and other measures

Absence of brain stem reflexes and other muscle movements (following initial violent muscle contractions) can be used to confirm successful pithing.

3. Recommendations

Pithing is an adjunct method that can be used in conjunction with penetrative captive bolt stunning or decapitation to ensure that an animal is dead (in the case of penetrative captive bolt stunning) or that an animal is no longer conscious (in the case of decapitation).

4. Species-specific recommendations

The pithing rod selected must be of a suitable size to be able to fit within the spinal canal of the animal.

Japan	<p>Category: Change</p> <p>Proposed amended text:</p> <p>The pithing rod selected must<u>should</u> be of a suitable size to be able to fit within the spinal canal of the animal.</p> <p>Rationale:</p> <p>WOAH standards are recommendations for member countries and “should” should be used in this regard.</p>
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[...]

Article 7.6.17.

Cervical dislocation

Manual or mechanical cervical dislocation comprises stretching and twisting the neck, resulting in the separation of spinal cord from the brain and *death* from cerebral anoxia due to cessation of breathing or blood supply to the brain [AVMA, 2020].

1. Animal welfare concerns

Cervical dislocation even with separation of the spinal cord fails to produce immediate loss of consciousness and in this case animals may die due to asphyxiation [Gregory and Wotton, 1990].

For heavy rats and rabbits, the large muscle mass in the cervical region makes manual cervical dislocation physically more difficult

2. Animal-based and other measures

Animal-based measures of an effective application of cervical dislocation are signs of death.

3. Recommendations

Only to be used in unconscious animals.

Japan	<p>Category: Deletion</p> <p>Proposed amended text:</p> <p>Only to be used in unconscious animals.</p> <p>Rationale:</p> <p>Cervical dislocation is commonly used for small birds and mice that are not unconscious, and may have to be used in emergency situations such as disasters.</p>
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Consistent results when performing manual cervical dislocation requires strength and skill so team members should be rested regularly to avoid fatigue and ensure consistently reliable results.

Mechanical cervical dislocation is preferred to manual as is more reliable and less prone to failure.

Cervical dislocation by crushing of vertebrae and spinal cord should not be used.

Animals should be monitored continuously until death to ensure the absence of brain stem reflexes.

The method is suitable for small birds, poultry, mice, rats and rabbits.

4. Species-specific recommendations

Manual cervical dislocation is applicable in birds weighing up to 3 kg. and in rats up to 200 g

Mechanical cervical dislocation is applicable in birds weighing up to 5 kg.

None identified

[...]

Article 7.6.19.

Electrical — two-stage application

A two-stage application of low frequency electric current (50 Hz) comprises firstly an application of current to the head by scissor-type tongs that spans the brain, immediately followed by an application of the tongs across the chest in a position that spans the heart.

The application of sufficient electric current to the head will induce 'tonic-clonic' epilepsy and unconsciousness. Once the animal is unconscious, the second stage will induce ventricular fibrillation (cardiac arrest) resulting in death.

1. Animal welfare concerns

The main hazards preventing effective electrical stunning and killing are: incorrect electrode placement, poor contact, a dirty or corroded electrode, electrical arcing, high contact resistance caused by hair or dirt on the animal surface, too short exposure time and inappropriate electrical parameters (low voltage/current or high frequency).

The second stage should only be applied to unconscious animals to prevent unacceptable levels of pain.

2. Animal-based and other measures

Before the application of the second stage, unconsciousness should be assessed with the following animal-based measures: immediately collapse, tonic-clonic seizures; apnoea; absence of corneal or palpebral reflex.

Animal-based measures of ineffective stun or recovery of consciousness are: vocalisation; spontaneous blinking; righting reflex; presence of corneal or palpebral reflex; rhythmic breathing; spontaneous swallowing and head shaking.

After the application of the second stage, death should be assessed with the following animal-based measures: absence of muscle tone, apnoea, absence of corneal reflex, dilated pupils and absence of heartbeat.

3. Recommendations

Two team members are recommended, the first to apply the electrodes and the second to manipulate the position of the animal to allow the second application to be made.

Animals should be restrained, at a minimum free-standing in a pen.

The tongs should be of the correct design and size for the animal;

A stunning current should be applied in a position that spans the brain for a minimum of 3 seconds; immediately following the application to the head and after ensuring that the animal is unconscious, the electrodes should be transferred to a position that spans the heart and the electrodes applied for a minimum of 3 seconds.

Electrodes should be applied firmly for the intended duration of time with pressure not released until the stun is complete.

Animals should be monitored continuously after stunning until death to ensure the absence of brain stem reflexes.

Electrodes should be in good condition and cleaned regularly during and after use, to enable optimum electrical contact to be maintained.

The wool or hair should be entirely dry; if wet the electricity may flow (shunt) through the wet wool or hair rather than contacting the skin and passing through the brain or body.

Wetting the bare skin (not wool or hair) application area with water (especially salted water) can increase electrical contact.

Ineffective application of the first stage of the method should be followed by a backup method or the repetition of the first stage.

The method is suitable for calves, sheep and goats, and pigs.

4. Species-specific recommendations

Japan	Category: General Rationale: The definition on “pigs” and “sows and boars” should be included. In addition, the current chapter contains the minimum voltages for electrical stunning. Japan seeks to understand the rationale behind the deletion of the parameters on voltages.
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Effective electrical parameters should be determined based on scientific evidence for different types of animals.

For electrical stunning of the head, minimum parameters are recommended for the following species:

- 1.5 A for bovines,
- 1.3 A for pigs,
- 1.8 A for sows and boars,
- 1.0 A for small ruminants.

Good placement of the tongs can be difficult on animals with horns and on sheep with woolly heads. Using electrodes with pins or with wet pins for woolly animals would help to overcome the problem. Alternatively, the wool should be removed from the area where the electrodes will be positioned on the animal.

[...]

Article 7.6.23.

Maceration

Maceration, utilising a mechanical apparatus with rotating blades or projections, causes immediate fragmentation and death in day-old birds and for embryonated eggs.

1. Animal welfare concerns

Pain, suffocation and distress due to a slow rotation of blades or rollers, overloading and rollers set too wide.

2. Animal-based and other measures

- absence of signs of life
- immediate fragmentation

3. Recommendations

The capacity of the apparatus (power and sharpness) should be sufficient to ensure that all day-old - birds are killed instantaneously, even if they are handled in a large number. The rate of introducing the birds should not allow the equipment to jam. Only purpose built equipment should be used.

The gap between rollers must ensure day-old-birds heads are crushed instantaneously leading to death [HSA, 2005].

Japan	Category: Change Proposed amended text: The gap between rollers must <u>should</u> ensure day-old-birds heads are crushed instantaneously leading to death [HSA, 2005]. Rationale: WOAH standards are recommendations for member countries and “should” should be used in this regard.
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Mechanical killing of day-old-birds should result in slurry, rather than recognisable body parts such as internal organs, legs, wings and heads, to ensure day-old-birds that were truly macerated [HSA, 2005].

It is important to ensure that the speed of the equipment is appropriate for the batch size and that day-old-birds are dead when they come out of the machine.

Avoid adding more than one layer of day-old-birds at one time or in quick succession, avoid introduction of a batch into the macerator before previous day-old-birds are dead.

4. Species-specific recommendations

Not identified

[...]
