1. Process for adoption of texts

2. OIE Aquatic Animal Health Code

3. OIE Manual of Diagnostic Tests of Aquatic Animals
1. Process for adoption of texts

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3. OIE Manual of Diagnostic Tests of Aquatic Animals
How the standards are set?

- An issue is identified (e.g. new scientific information; need for a new chapter; improvement of an existing chapter)

- The Aquatic Animal Health Standards Commission prepares new or revised texts for the Aquatic Code or Aquatic Manual

- The Commission prepares the texts considering:
  - expert input (e.g. reference laboratories, ad hoc groups)
  - current scientific information
  - purpose and practicality of proposed texts
  - any parallel text in the Terrestrial Code
  - member country comments.
Who is responsible?

- OIE Members are primarily responsible for the setting and adoption of international standards.

- The Aquatics Commission coordinates the development of draft texts – only OIE members have the authority to adopt them.

- OIE Delegates have a responsibility to participate actively in the debate and setting of international standards.

- Focal points have an important role, through the preparation of comments for the Delegate for new or revised OIE standards.
Comments received on Aquatic Animals Commission reports over the past 5 years
Reports circulated to Members’

Members’ prepare submission of country comments

Specialist Commission meetings

Reports circulated to Members’

Members’ prepare position for World Assembly

World Assembly of Delegates

Specialist Commission meetings

Members’ prepare submission of country comments

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World Assembly of Delegates
1. Process for adoption of texts

2. OIE Aquatic Animal Health Code

3. OIE Manual of Diagnostic Tests of Aquatic Animals
Aims of the OIE Aquatic Animal Health Code

- Contribute to improving the health of aquatic animals and welfare of farmed fish worldwide

- Ensure the safety of international trade in aquatic animals and their products.
Changes in the 2014 Aquatic Code

Glossary

Chapter 1.1. Notification of diseases and epidemiological information
Chapter 1.2. Criteria for listing an emerging disease
Chapter 1.3. Diseases listed by the OIE
Chapter 3.1. Quality of Aquatic Animal Health Services
Chapter 5.2. Certification procedures
Chapter 9.4. Necrotising hepatopancreatitis
Sections 8-11. Horizontal issues in disease chapters
Chapter 9.8. Yellow head disease
Chapter 10.4. Infection with infectious salmon anaemia virus
Chapter 10.5. Infection with salmonid alphavirus
New Chapter Criteria for listing species as susceptible to infection with a specific pathogen
Glossary

- “Emerging disease”
- “Susceptible species”
- “Notification”
- “Risk assessment”
- “Pathogenic agent”
- “Veterinarian”

Minor amendments
“Emerging disease”

means a disease, other than listed diseases, which has a significant impact on aquatic animal or public health resulting from:

- a change of known pathogenic agent or its spread to a new geographic area or species; or
- a newly recognised or suspected pathogenic agent.”

Significance?

The definition is fundamentally important to reporting obligations for emerging diseases
“Susceptible species”

means a species of aquatic animal in which infection has been demonstrated by the occurrence of natural cases or by experimental exposure to the pathogenic agent that mimics natural transmission pathways.

Significance?

- The definition is fundamentally important to determining the scope of disease specific chapters in the code.
Changes in the 2014 Aquatic Code

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New Chapter Criteria for listing species as susceptible to infection with a specific pathogen
Chapter 1.1 Notification of epidemiological information

- Edits throughout
- Main change is a new article on obligations for reporting emerging diseases

Significance?

- The new article, together with the glossary definition, clearly identifies reporting obligations for emerging diseases
Chapter 1.1. Notification of epidemiological information

Article 1.1.4.

Competent Authorities shall, under the responsibility of the Delegate, send to the Headquarters:

1. a notification through WAHIS or by fax or e-mail, when an emerging disease has been detected in a country, a zone or a compartment;

2. periodic reports subsequent to a notification of an emerging disease, as described under point 1. These should continue until:
   a. the disease has been eradicated; or
   b. the situation becomes sufficiently stable; or
   c. sufficient scientific information is available to determine whether it meets the criteria for listing.
Changes in the 2014 Aquatic Code

Glossary

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New Chapter Criteria for listing species as susceptible to infection with a specific pathogen
Chapter 1.2. Criteria for listing aquatic animal diseases

- Removal of criteria for listing emerging diseases (was Article 1.2.3. in 2013 Code)

Significance?
- The Aquatic Code no longer has a formal process for listing specific emerging diseases
- But emerging diseases must be reported in accordance with article 1.1.4.
Changes in the 2014 Aquatic Code

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Chapter 1.1. Notification of diseases and epidemiological information
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New Chapter Criteria for listing species as susceptible to infection with a specific pathogen
Chapter 1.3. Diseases listed by the OIE

- Removed - Infection with ostreid herpesvirus-1 microvariant
  “Yellow head disease” name changed to “Infection with yellow head virus”.

Significance?

- OsHV-1 microvariant meets the definition of an emerging disease and should be reporting in accordance with the new article 1.1.4.

- Yellow head disease – removal of ambiguity by clearly identifying genotype 1 as the causative agent
Changes in the 2014 Aquatic Code

Glossary

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New Chapter Criteria for listing species as susceptible to infection with a specific pathogen
Chapter 3.1. Quality of aquatic animal health services

- Minor amendments to be consistent with Terrestrial Code

Significance?

- Clarity on the principles for maintaining quality of aquatic animal health services
Changes in the 2014 Aquatic Code

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Chapter 1.1. Notification of diseases and epidemiological information
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New Chapter Criteria for listing species as susceptible to infection with a specific pathogen
Chapter 5.2. Certification procedures

- More detailed description of electronic certification procedures (Article 5.2.4.)

Significance?
- Countries are beginning to adopt electronic certification
- Standard approaches are necessary to ensure compatibility
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New Chapter Criteria for listing species as susceptible to infection with a specific pathogen
Chapter 9.4. Necrotising hepatopancreatitis

- Name change of causative agent from “necrotising hepatopancreatitis bacteria” to “Candidatus Hepatobacter penaei”
  - “Candidatus” would be removed when name accepted by International Committee for Taxonomy of Bacteria

Significance?
- Consistency with current taxonomy
Changes in the 2014 Aquatic Code

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New Chapter Criteria for listing species as susceptible to infection with a specific pathogen
Sections 8-11. Horizontal changes

- Some inconsistencies developed over time in the disease specific chapters
- Several identified and addressed across all disease specific chapters

Significance?
- Better consistency between chapters
- Improved usability (e.g. articles on self declaration of freedom are now much clearer).
Changes in the 2014 Aquatic Code

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New Chapter Criteria for listing species as susceptible to infection with a specific pathogen
Chapter 9.8. Yellow head disease

- Changed definition for clarity — “... means infection with yellow head virus genotype 1.”
- Changed name of the disease at the same time — YHD to ‘infection with yellow head virus’, in line with the current approach

Significance?

- Removal of ambiguity
Changes in the 2014 Aquatic Code

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Chapter 10.4. Infection with infectious salmon anaemia virus

- Revisions based on member country comments (some relate to strain differentiation)
- Horizontal changes.

Significance?

- Improved clarity, including for obligations regarding HPR0 ISAV
Changes in the 2014 Aquatic Code

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New Chapter Criteria for listing species as susceptible to infection with a specific pathogen
Chapter 10.5. Infection with salmonid alphavirus

- New code chapter for this disease (listed in 2013)
- Presents measures for safe trade

Significance?

- Any measures for this disease must now follow this new chapter—if higher protections are desired they must be supported by risk analysis.
Changes in the 2014 Aquatic Code

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New Chapter Criteria for listing species as susceptible to infection with a specific pathogen
New Chapter. Criteria for listing species as susceptible to infection with a specific pathogen

- New code chapter
- Provides criteria for determining which host species are listed as susceptible in Article X.X.2. of each disease specific chapter
- Criteria include 3 aspects:
  - transmission pathways consistent with natural routes
  - pathogenic agent adequately identified
  - presence of agent constitutes an infection.
New Chapter. Criteria for listing species as susceptible to infection with a specific pathogen

- criteria will be applied progressively to each disease specific chapter in the Aquatic Code.
- these assessments will be undertaken by ad hoc Groups—assessments will be provided to Member Countries’ for comment.

Significance?
- Consistent, evidence based approach to susceptibility
- Better consistency between code and manual
- Scope of some chapters (i.e. host species they apply to) will likely change
1. Process for adoption of texts

2. OIE Aquatic Animal Health Code

3. OIE Manual of Diagnostic Tests of Aquatic Animals
Purpose of the OIE Manual of Diagnostic Tests for Aquatic Animals

- Provide a standardised approach to the diagnosis of the diseases listed in the Aquatic Code

- Facilitate health certification for trade in aquatic animals and aquatic animal products.
New and revised Aquatic Manual chapters

The 7th edition of the Aquatic Manual has been published on-line

Revised chapters in 2014

- 2.2.2. Infectious hypodermal and haematopoietic necrosis
- 2.3.5. Infection with infectious salmon anaemia virus
- 2.4.9. Infection with ostreid herpesvirus 1 microvariants

New chapter in 2014

- 2.3.5b. Infection with salmonid alphavirus
Thank you for your attention

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