



Organisation
Mondiale
de la Santé
Animale

World
Organisation
for Animal
Health

Organización
Mundial
de Sanidad
Animal

The Director General

Our Ref.: MKP/SB-SD.014

Paris, 17 March 2021

**OIE List of Members and Zones
with Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy (BSE) Risk Status**

Dear Delegate,

The OIE Scientific Commission for Animal Diseases (Scientific Commission) has reviewed the report of the *ad hoc* Group on BSE risk status evaluation of Members and has recommended that the World Assembly of Delegates (the Assembly) accept that **Canada** and **Ireland** be recognised as **Members with a negligible risk for BSE** in accordance with the provisions of Article 11.4.3. of the OIE *Terrestrial Animal Health Code (Terrestrial Code)*.

In addition, the Scientific Commission has reviewed the annual reconfirmations of already officially recognised Members and zones with a BSE risk status, as described in a specific report annexed to the report of the February 2021 meeting of the Scientific Commission, and has recommended that the BSE risk status of the Members listed in the enclosed document be confirmed.

This letter is to provide Delegates of all Members the opportunity to object to the above-mentioned recommendations of the Scientific Commission, detailed in the report of the February 2021 meeting of the Scientific Commission, should they wish to do so. In accordance with the Standard Operating Procedures for official recognition of disease status, any objection or specific question should be based on scientific or technical grounds and be provided **within 60 days** upon receipt of this letter, accompanied by information substantiating the objection.

It is recommended that questions are first referred in writing to the applicant Member concerned, which is requested to provide clarification to the Member soliciting information, with copy to the OIE Headquarters (disease.status@oie.int). The Member concerned would be committed to provide the whole or part of the dossier to another Member should it be requested during the 60-day period, and within a maximum of 10 days of receiving such a request. The Scientific Commission will take all objections received by the OIE into consideration, and will refer requests for additional detailed information, if needed, to the Delegates of the Members concerned.

Considering the relevant comments made by Members, the Scientific Commission will then propose a draft Resolution that will include both the existing list of Members and zones with a recognised BSE risk status including the non-contiguous territories as well as the above-proposed Members for adoption by the Assembly at the 88th General Session in May 2021. Upon adoption of the Resolution, the OIE will publish the List of Members and zones with a recognised BSE risk status.

A response to this letter is requested only if you have an objection or if you need additional information with regard to the recognition of the above-named Members or to the maintenance of the existing List of Members and zones with a BSE risk status.

I thank you in advance.

Best regards,

Dr Monique Eloit

Enclosed: List of Members, zones and non-contiguous territories already having a BSE risk status

Cc: Dr J.-P. Dop, Dr M. Stone, Status Department, Dr N. Mapiitse, World Animal Health Information and Analysis Department, Dr C. Zepeda, Dr K. Tounkara, Dr R. Bouguedour, Dr S. Wakhusama, Dr M. Letshwenyo, Dr L. Barcos, Dr C. Martínez Rivas, Dr H. Kugita, Dr R. Abila, Dr B. Plavsic, Dr M. Taitubayev, Dr R. Balbo, Dr G. Yehia, Dr M. Alhosani