

Resolutions

**adopted by the International Committee of the OIE
during its 73rd General Session**

22 – 27 May 2005

RESOLUTION No. XXVIII

Applications of Genetic Engineering for Livestock and Biotechnology Products

CONSIDERING THAT

The development of animal health applications for biotechnology is accelerating at a rapid pace and has the potential for significant advances in animal and veterinary public health.

A survey of the OIE 167 Member Countries conducted in 2005 identified a number of potentially beneficial applications of biotechnology and noted the absence of uniform guidance or international standards for assessment.

Responses received from this survey of OIE Member Countries indicated broad consensus that comprehensive regulatory controls are required and that ethical issues and societal concerns will need to be addressed in order to ensure responsible introduction and social acceptance of these technologies.

The maximising of benefits and minimising of negative consequences are best achieved through transparency and an international engagement to ensure that science-based standards are developed to direct the application of emerging technologies and to protect animal and public health.

THE COMMITTEE

RESOLVES THAT

OIE continue to provide scientific advice and support to enable countries to develop harmonised technical standards for regulation of biotechnology-derived animal health products, and genetically modified production animals through:

- The constitution of an Ad hoc Group on Biotechnology to support the work of OIE Specialist Commissions and related Working Groups.
- Maintaining and expanding collaboration with other international organisations including, but not limited to, the FAO, WHO, VICH, and IETS.
- Facilitating international collaboration among regulatory agencies.
- The standardisation of the techniques of assessment of bioengineered animals or products and training Member Countries to conduct risk analysis through the recognition of international collaborating centre(s).

These objectives will be reached by the OIE taking into account the following priorities:

1. Development and adoption of standards and guidelines for research on the use of live attenuated vaccines in animal health.
2. Development of recommendations and guidelines for use of DNA vaccines.

3. Development of guidelines and recommendations for the animal health risks linked with somatic cell nuclear transfer cloning.
 4. Develop objective criteria for assessing the health of embryos and production animals derived from cloning, and associated safety of cloned production animals and their products.
 5. Develop policy guidelines for exclusion of unapproved animals and products from the livestock population, and segregation from the feed and food supply.
 6. Develop identification, testing, and certification guidelines for international trade in production animals and their products for which biotechnology procedures have been employed.
 7. Development of guidelines relevant to the application of Nanoscience/Nanotechnology as it relates to animal health
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(Adopted by the International Committee of the OIE on 26 May 2005)