Annex 21

CHAPTER 4.4.  
  
**ZONING AND COMPARTMENTALISATION**

[…]

Article 4.4.6.

**Protection zone**

A *protection zone* may be established to preserve the *animal health status* of an *animal* *population* in a free country or a *free zone* by preventing the introduction of a pathogenic agent of a specific *infection* or *infestation* from neighbouring countries or *zones* of different *animal health status.* ~~to that~~*~~animal~~**~~population~~*

A *protection zone* can be established as a temporary measure in response to an increased *risk* of disease. The *protection zone* can be established within or outside a *free zone* or within a free country. Based on the results of a *risk assessment*, more than one *protection zone* may be established.

*Biosecurity* and *sanitary measures* should be implemented in the *protection zone* based on the animal management systems, the epidemiology of the disease under consideration and the epidemiological situation prevailing in the neighbouring infected countries or *zones*.

Increased *surveillance*, in accordance with Chapter 1.4. and the relevant disease-specific chapter, should be implemented in the *protection zone* and the rest of the country or *zone,* including s*urveillance* of *wildlife* and *vectors* as relevant.

In addition to the general considerations in Article 4.4.2. and the principles in Article 4.4.3., t~~T~~hese measures should include intensified movement control, ~~and~~*~~surveillance~~*~~and specific~~ *animal identification* and *animal traceability* to ensure that *animals* in the *protection zone* are clearly distinguishable from other populations. *Vaccination* of susceptible *animals* in accordance with Chapter 4.18. may also be applied.

~~1)~~ *~~vaccination~~*~~of all or at risk susceptible~~*~~animals~~*~~;~~

~~2)~~ ~~testing or~~*~~vaccination~~*~~of~~*~~animals~~*~~moved;~~

~~3)~~ s~~pecific procedures for sample handling, dispatching and testing;~~

~~4)~~ ~~enhanced~~*~~biosecurity~~*~~including~~*~~disinfection~~*~~and disinsection procedures for~~*~~vehicles/vessels~~*~~and vehicles used for transportation of animal products,~~*~~feed~~*~~or fodder, and possible compulsory routes for their movements within, to or from the~~*~~zone~~*~~;~~

~~5)~~ ~~specific~~*~~surveillance~~*~~of susceptible~~*~~wildlife~~*~~and relevant~~*~~vectors~~*~~;~~

~~6)~~ ~~awareness campaigns aimed at the public or targeted at breeders, traders, hunters or~~*~~veterinarians~~*~~.~~

~~Anytime the status of the~~[*~~protection zone~~*](https://www.oie.int/index.php?id=169&L=0&htmfile=glossaire.htm#terme_zone_tampon)~~changes, the status of the country or~~[*~~zone~~*](https://www.oie.int/index.php?id=169&L=0&htmfile=glossaire.htm#terme_zone_region)~~in which it was established should be redetermined in accordance with the relevant~~[*~~listed disease~~*](https://www.oie.int/index.php?id=169&L=0&htmfile=glossaire.htm#terme_maladie_de_la_liste_de_l_oie)~~-specific chapters.~~

Unless otherwise specified in the relevant disease-specific chapters of the *Terrestrial Code*, if the *animal health status* of an established *protection zone* changes due to the occurrence of a [*case*](https://www.oie.int/index.php?id=169&L=0&htmfile=glossaire.htm#terme_cas) or implementation of *vaccination*, the *animal health status* of the rest of the country or [*zone*](https://www.oie.int/index.php?id=169&L=0&htmfile=glossaire.htm#terme_zone_region) is not affected.

Regarding diseases for which the OIE grants official recognition of *animal health status*, a *protection zone* is considered as effectively established when the conditions described in this article and in the relevant disease-specific chapters have been applied and documented evidence is submitted to the OIE. A *protection zone* established on a temporary basis should be limited to less than 24 months from the date of its approval by the OIE. If a Member wishes to make the *protection zone* permanent, the process for official recognition by the OIE should be followed.

Annex 21 (contd)

Article 4.4.7.

**Containment zone**

1) In the event of *outbreaks* in a country or *zone* previously free from a disease, a *containment zone*, which includes all epidemiologically linked *outbreaks* may be established to minimise the impact on the rest of the country or *zone*.

2) A *containment zone* is an *infected zone* that should be managed in such a way that *commodities* for *international trade* can be shown to have originated either from inside or outside the *containment zone*.

3) Establishment of a *containment zone* should be based on a rapid response, prepared in a contingency plan, and that includes:

‒ appropriate control of movement of *animals* and other *commodities* upon declaration of suspicion of the specified disease;

‒ epidemiological investigation (trace-back, trace-forward) after confirmation of *infection* or *infestation*, demonstrating that the *outbreaks* are epidemiologically related and all contained within the defined boundaries of the *containment zone*;

‒ a *stamping-out policy* or another effective emergency control strategy aimed at eradicating the disease;

‒ *animal identification* of the susceptible population within the *containment zone* enabling its recognition as belonging to the *containment zone*;

‒ increased passive and targeted *surveillance* in accordance with Chapter 1.4. in the rest of the country or *zone* demonstrating no occurrence of *infection* or *infestation*;

‒ *biosecurity* and *sanitary measures*, including ongoing *surveillance* and control of the movement of *animals*, other *commodities* and fomites within and from the *containment zone*, consistent with the *listed disease*-specific chapter, when there is one, to prevent spread of the *infection* or *infestation* from the *containment zone* to the rest of the country or *zone*.

4) A *containment zone* is considered as effectively established when the following is demonstrated:

EITHER

*a)* there have been no new *cases* in the *containment zone* within a minimum of two *incubation periods* from the disposal of the last detected *case*;

OR

*b)* ~~the~~*~~containment zone~~* it comprises ~~an~~*~~infected~~* a *zone* where *cases* may continue to occur and ~~a~~ *~~protection~~* another *zone* where no *outbreaks* have occurred for at least two *incubation periods* after the control measures above are in place and which ~~that~~ separates the *zone* where *cases* may continue to occur ~~the~~*~~infected zone~~* from the rest of the country or *zone*.

5) The free status of the areas outside the *containment zone* is suspended pending the effective establishment of the *containment zone*. Once the *containment zone* has been established, the areas outside the *containment zone* regain free status.

6) The free status of the *containment zone* should be regained in accordance with the relevant *listed disease*-specific chapters or, if there are none, with Article 1.4.6.

7) In the event of an occurrence of a *case* of the *infection* or *infestation* for which the *containment zone* was established, either in the *containment zone* defined in point *a)* or in the *~~protection~~ zone* where no *outbreaks* had occurred as defined in point *b)*, the rest of the country or *zone* is considered infected.

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