

ANNEX IV

**CATEGORIES OF MALE EQUIDAE TO WHICH THE CONDITIONS
FOR EQUINE VIRAL ARTERITIS APPLY IN ACCORDANCE
WITH ARTICLE 15(b)(ii) OF DIRECTIVE 2009/156/EC**

1. The requirement relating to equine viral arteritis laid down in Article 15(b)(ii) of Directive 2009/156/EC shall apply to uncastrated male equidae with the exception of:
 - (a) equidae vaccinated against equine viral arteritis under official supervision with a vaccine approved by the competent authority in accordance with one of the following protocols:
 - (i) the equidae shall be vaccinated during isolation of at least 28 days after they had been tested either in a serum neutralisation test for equine viral arteritis carried out with negative result at a serum dilution of 1 in 4 on a sample of blood taken not earlier than 7 days of commencing isolation, or in a virus isolation test carried out with negative result on an aliquot of the entire semen collected not earlier than 7 days of commencing isolation, and were kept separated from other equidae for 21 days following vaccination;
 - (ii) the equidae shall be vaccinated at the age of 180 to 270 days, after having been subjected to a virus neutralisation test for equine viral arteritis carried out with negative result at a serum dilution of 1 in 4, or carried out with stable or declining titres on two blood samples taken at least 14 days apart. The equidae shall be separated from other equidae until 21 days after vaccination.
 - (b) equidae less than 180 days old;
 - (c) equidae for slaughter sent directly to a slaughterhouse.
2. The test shall be carried out and certified, and the result and vaccination certified, under official veterinary supervision. Vaccination shall be repeated at regular intervals according to manufacturer instructions.

Batch numbers of the approved vaccine, the details of the vaccination and revaccination and the results of serological or agent-identification tests shall be documented, where available in the identification document (passport), and made available for certification purposes.

3. Test mating as described in point 4(a) of Article 12.9.2. of the Terrestrial Animal Health Code of the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) is considered equivalent to the virus isolation test referred to in point 1(a)(i) to prove absence of the equine arteritis virus in semen.