RESOLUTION NUMBER: 7   APPROVED

SOURCE: AAVLD/USAHA COMMITTEE ON ANIMAL HEALTH SURVEILLANCE AND INFORMATION SYSTEMS

SUBJECT MATTER: ADOPTION OF XML DATA STANDARD FOR EXCHANGE OF ELECTRONIC CERTIFICATE OF VETERINARY INSPECTION DATA

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

The Animal Disease Traceability (ADT) program relies heavily upon animal movement data contained in certificates of veterinary inspection (CVIs). Much of this data is digital or is being digitized. Effective use of these data, while minimizing the expense of repeat data entry, depends on the ability of dissimilar information systems to exchange CVI data in a standard format.

A robust marketplace of electronic CVIs (eCVIs) has emerged. In order to achieve a standard format that would have broad acceptance in this market, the Data Standards Subcommittee of the United States Animal Health Association Committee on Animal Health Surveillance and Information Systems used an industry consensus standard development process to create the "XML Data Standard for Exchange of eCVI Data." Version 1 of this standard underwent three years of trial use as a draft standard followed by an intense year of edits to resolve issues discovered during trial use. Version 2 of the standard is now available.

Effectiveness of a standard depends upon its adoption by a critical mass of data producer and consumer applications. Many of the most important ADT applications are implemented in United States Department of Agriculture, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Veterinary Services programs.

RESOLUTION:

The United States Animal Health Association (USAHA) and the American Association of Veterinary Laboratory Diagnosticians (AAVLD) urge the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS), Veterinary Services (VS) to: 1) endorse version 2 of the AAVLD/USAHA XML Data Standard for exchange of electronic certificates of veterinary inspection (eCVI) data as the preferred means of eCVI data exchange, and; 2) as soon as is practicable, implement the standard as the primary means for export and import of eCVI data in all USDA, APHIS, VS applications that produce or use such data.