

# **International Regulations and Requirements for the Import/Export of Reproductive Biomaterials: Embryos, Semen and Tissues**

*Sponsored by  
The IETS Committee on Companion Animals, Non-Domestic and Endangered Species (CANDES)*

*Wednesday, 12 January 2011, Windham Orlando Resort, Orlando, Florida*

The goal of this workshop will be to present and discuss the current status regarding biosafety issues when transporting biomaterials from CANDES as well as humans and livestock for use in biomedical research, and embryo production in vivo, in vitro and artificial insemination. IETS members and experts working at regulatory agencies and in relevant research will provide presentations that will cover a variety of topics that will include cloning and stem cell research. The workshop will cover issues such as the potential for disease transmission via reproductive biomaterials and methods to reduce those risks, the current status of international regulatory agencies in their biosafety guidelines for the import/export of these biomaterials and suggestions for research or actions to overcome some of the hurdles that currently hampers use of reproductive biomaterials in biomedical and conservation science research. No proceedings articles will be provided, however, the IETS Committee on CANDES will prepare a publication summarizing the results of the workshop in a 2011 issue of the Embryo Transfer Newsletter. The proposed topics and suggested speakers for the program are listed as follows:

**Session I: International regulations for the transport of embryos, semen and tissues from domestic and non-domestic livestock**

08:00 – 08:45: USDA-APHIS guidelines and regulations regarding the transport of reproductive tissues versus live animals  
*Dr. Linda Penfold, White Oak Conservation Center; IETS CANDES Subcommittee Co-Chair & Dr. William White, USDA-APHIS, Foreign Animal Disease Diagnostic Laboratory*

08:45 – 09:00 Discussion

09:00 – 09:45: OIE and international guidelines and regulations regarding the transport of reproductive tissues versus live animals  
*Dr. Larry Delver, VM Agriculture Consulting Ltd., Canada; IETS Health & Safety Committee (HASAC) Regulatory Subcommittee Chair & Dr. Pascale Chavatte-Palmer, INRA, France; IETS HASAC Chair*

09:45 – 10:00: Discussion

10:00 – 10:30: Break

10:30 – 11:15: Biosafety issues and mitigations regarding the use of tissues for cloning  
*Dr. Irinia Polejaeva, Viagen, Inc., IETS HASAC member; Dr. Kegin Gregg, Viagen Inc. & Dr. Duane C. Kraemer, Texas A & M University, IETS CANDES member*

11:15 – 11:30 Discussion

11:30 – 12:15 Risks and methods for reducing risks of transmitting infectious pathogens when transporting reproductive biomaterials  
*Dr. Ann Van Soom, Ghent University; IETS HASAC Research Subcommittee Chair & Dr. Naida Loskutoff, Omaha's Center for Conservation and Research; IETS CANDES Chair*

12:15 – 12:30: Discussion

12:30 – 14:00 Lunch

**Session II: International guidelines and regulations for the import/export of reproductive tissues from rare or endangered livestock breeds and non-domestic species**

14:00 – 14:45 Current trends and disease risk assessments for the development of biobanks for tissues from a diverse array of taxa, including rare domestic and non-domestic livestock  
*Dr. Bill Holt, Zoological Society of London; IETS CANDES Health & Safety Co-Chair*

- 14:45 – 15:00 Discussion
- 15:00 – 15:30: Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES) and US Endangered Species Act (ESA) regulations regarding the transport of tissues from listed species  
*Dr. Mike Carpenter, US Fish & Wildlife Service, Division of Management Authority (CITES), Branch of Permits*
- 15:30 – 16:00: Break
- 16:00 – 17:00: Panel discussion with representatives from USDA-APHIS, IETS HASAC, US Fish and Wildlife Service and CITES

*Moderators: Dr. Gabriela Mastromonaco, Toronto Zoo, Canada; IETS CANDES Technology Subcommittee Co-Chair & Dr. Jason Herrick, U. Illinois, USA; IETS CANDES Research Subcommittee Co-Chair*

Panel:

- *Dr. William White, USDA-APHIS, Foreign Animal Disease Diagnostic Laboratory;*
- *Dr. Larry Delver, VM Agriculture Consulting Ltd., Canada; IETS Health & Safety Committee (HASAC) Regulatory Subcommittee Chair;*
- *Dr. Pascale Chavatte-Palmer, INRA, France; IETS HASAC Chair;*
- *Dr. Ann Van Soom, Ghent University; IETS HASAC Research Subcommittee Chair;*
- *Dr. Mike Carpenter, US Fish & Wildlife Department, CITES Representative*

*Focusing on suggestions as to how to approach regulatory agencies for guidance to standardize regulatory requirements for reproductive biomaterial transport and for possible methods needed for relaxing certain regulations that currently effect biomedical and conservation research programs -- similar to the OIE's acceptance of the Embryo Appendices in*

*the Animal Health Code based on the efforts of the IETS  
HASAC.*