

**TERMS OF REFERENCE**  
**INTERNATIONAL EMBRYO TECHNOLOGY SOCIETY (IETS)**  
**REGULATORY SUBCOMMITTEE OF THE HEALTH AND SAFETY ADVISORY**  
**COMMITTEE (HASAC)**

**1. Preamble**

The Regulatory Subcommittee is an advisory committee, consisting of technicians who are specialist on animal health issues, within the Health and Safety Advisory Committee (HASAC) of the International Embryo Technology Society (IETS) This subcommittee submits recommendations based on current scientific knowledge and commercial practice to the IETS which in turn provides advice to international regulatory agencies such as the OIE and the European Commission.

**2. Mission Statement**

To develop and encourage the adoption of guidelines for the safe collection, processing, production, storage and movement of oocytes/embryos without unduly restricting technological advance and commerce.

**3. Scope**

The work of the subcommittee is wide ranging and includes the following:

- a. Maintaining an up-to-date understanding of embryo transfer and related reproductive technologies, and of the disease risks that can or could be associated these technologies.
- b. Providing advice and recommendations to the Health and Safety Advisory Committee on measures to prevent or mitigate the risks of disease transmission by embryo transfer and by related reproductive technologies, and thereby to protect the public, livestock and the environment.

**4. Structure**

The subcommittee is led by a chairman and consists of a diverse group of approximately fifteen members of the IETS covering both public and private sectors. Co-opted non-members with appropriate interests and expertise may also serve. Members will represent as many different countries as possible and ideally they will represent each of the continents on which animal agriculture is practiced.

## **5. Appointment and Process**

Subcommittee members are expected to volunteer their expertise from the fields of regulatory administration, commerce and research. The chairman is normally selected from within the subcommittee, approved by the HASAC Chair, and the nomination confirmed by the Board of Governors of the IETS. At the discretion of the Parent Committee and the Board of Governors the chairman may serve for an indeterminate period.

## **6. Supporting Structure**

The subcommittee is an instrument of the parent committee to which it reports and from which matters to be discussed are normally received and answered. On matters of international trade, the parent committee may, with the approval of the IETS Board of Governors, submit the subcommittee's recommendations to the OIE through a liaison officer. The IETS Board of Governors nominates a member of the subcommittee or of the Board of Governors to be the liaison officer with the OIE.

## **7. Frequency and Location of Meetings**

The subcommittee will

- a. meet at least once annually, during the annual convention of the IETS at the locality decided by the Board of Governors.
- b. have discussions at least twice during the year via the secure HASAC Discussion Forum (<https://apps.fass.org/IETS/hasac-comm-forum/discussion.asp>) to review and respond to the OIE Code Commission plans and reports normally produced each February and September each year. The deadlines for response is usually December and July each year.

## **8. Support**

Some secretariat and administrative support are provided by FASS. However, most administrative services are provided at the institution of the chairperson of the subcommittee at no cost to the IETS. Limited financial support for travel of members to meetings can be arranged through the chairperson of HASAC, depending on the budget allocated by the Board.