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

PREAMBLE

The subcommittee as an advisory committee, technically specialist in animal health issues, to the Health and Safety Advisory Committee of the International Embryo Transfer Society (IETS) submits recommendations, based on current scientific knowledge and commercial practice, to IETS which provides advice to international regulatory agencies such as the OIE and the European Commission.

MISSION STATEMENT

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

SCOPE

The work of the subcommittee is wide ranging and includes the following:
1. 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.
2. 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.

3. STRUCTURE

The subcommittee is led by a chairman and consists of a diverse group of approximately ten members of the from HASAC covering both public and private sectors. Some 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.

4. 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, and his/her nominations then 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.

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. 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.

FREQUENCY AND LOCATION OF MEETINGS

The subcommittee will meet at least twice annually, once during the annual convention of the IETS at the locale decided by the Board of Governors, and again during the annual meeting of the United States Animal Health Association at the locale determined by that body.

SUPPORT

A secretariat does not exist for the subcommittee, however, financial support for travel expenses may be arranged for with the consent of the parent committee chairman.