

# NOTIFICATION PROCEDURE

**Aquatic Animal Diseases**

**2016**



**WORLD ORGANISATION FOR ANIMAL HEALTH**  
*Protecting animals, preserving our future*

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## INTRODUCTION

This procedure is aimed at helping Member Countries better fulfil their obligations arising from the revised terms of Article 1.1.3. of Chapter 1.1. entitled “Notification of diseases, and provision of epidemiological information”, of the *Aquatic Animal Health Code* adopted in May 2015, relating to regular reporting on the absence or presence of OIE-listed diseases, and in particular paragraph 3 of the said article stating what the Competent Authority shall, under the responsibility of the Delegate, send to the Headquarters of the OIE: “Six-monthly reports on the absence or presence and evolution of listed diseases and information of epidemiological significance to other Member Countries”.

So as to provide the information in a timely and efficient manner, Member Countries are encouraged to **use the WAHIS online notification application** (<https://www.oie.int/wahis/>) and are asked to use the paper forms only if they have real difficulties in accessing WAHIS due to recurrent internet connection problems.

The six-monthly report is in two parts:

- Part 1 is for qualitative information to indicate the occurrence code (presence or absence) of each OIE-listed aquatic animal disease or infection in your country during the reporting period and the preventive and control measures applied;
- Part 2 is for quantitative information of any OIE-listed aquatic animal diseases or infections present in your country during the reporting period.

Four template forms are provided to notify the presence of an OIE-listed disease or infection. This design offers Member Countries more flexibility in providing information on OIE-listed diseases and infections, according to the epidemiological situation of each OIE-listed disease or infection present in the country and taking into account the frequency and nature of information produced by national animal disease surveillance and monitoring systems. However, the OIE strongly recommends the use of Template I to report information by first administrative division and by month, especially for diseases and infections that are notifiable in your country.



## PART 1

This part must be completed for all OIE-listed aquatic animal diseases and infections



### QUALITATIVE INFORMATION

#### Disease occurrence codes and preventive and control measures

1. **Report date:** enter the date when you will submit the report to the OIE.

2-8. Complete **details of the reporting Authority.**

9. **Occurrence codes**

The OIE's online notification system, WAHIS (World Animal Health Information System), offers users the possibility to indicate the occurrence code for disease of domestic and wildlife separately in order to better differentiate the disease situation between domestic species and wildlife.

Please enter for each disease or infection for each category of species (domestic species, wildlife) one of the following occurrence codes. If no information is available on an OIE-listed disease, please leave the box empty in the WAHIS online notification application or indicate "...” on the paper form.

**Codes indicating disease presence in domestic animals and/or in wildlife**

Disease present	+	The disease is present with clinical signs in the whole country (in domestic species and/or wildlife)
Disease limited to one or more zones	+()	The disease is present with clinical signs, and limited to one or more zones/compartments (in domestic species and/or wildlife)

**Codes indicating the presence of the infection in domestic species and/or in wildlife without clinical signs**

Infection	+?	Confirmed infection using diagnostic tests, but no clinical signs observed (in domestic species and/or wildlife).
Infection limited to one or more zones	+?()	Confirmed infection using diagnostic tests, but no clinical signs observed and limited to one or more zones/compartments (in domestic species and/or wildlife).

**Codes indicating disease or infection absence in domestic species and/or wildlife**

Disease absent	-	<p>The disease was absent in the country during the reporting period (in domestic species or wildlife). In this case, indicate the <b>date of last occurrence</b> of the disease if known. The date of last occurrence is the date when the disease or infection was last declared absent by the Competent Authority.</p> <p><b>Important:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- For the date of last occurrence you can use one of the following formats: (dd/mm/yyyy) or (mm/yyyy) or (yyyy).</li> <li>- If the full date is unknown the month/year or year only may be used.</li> <li>- Tick the box “date unknown” if the date of the last occurrence is not available.</li> <li>- In the WAHIS online notification application, if the disease was present previously and is now reported as absent, the system will display the date of the last occurrence automatically in the on-going report.</li> </ul>
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**Other codes in domestic species and/or in wildlife**

Disease suspected	?	The presence of the disease was suspected but not confirmed (in domestic species or wildlife).
Disease suspected but not confirmed and limited to one or more zones	?()	The presence of the disease was suspected but not confirmed and limited to one or more zones/compartments (in domestic species or wildlife).
No information	...	No information is available regarding the presence or the absence of this disease during the reporting period (in domestic species or wildlife).

**Disease or infection never reported (in both domestic species and wildlife)**

Never reported	0000	<p>The disease has "never been reported" (historically absent) for the whole country in both domestic species and wildlife.</p> <p><b>Important:</b> It is not acceptable to notify the disease as “never reported” if it was previously reported in domestic species or in wildlife.</p>
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**10. Species**

Definitions for the aquatic animal species codes are given in Annex I.

**11. Preventive and control measures**

Tick accordingly the appropriate boxes to indicate the disease preventive and control measures applied in your country for each species (domestic or wildlife).

<p><b>Important:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>☞ Shaded boxes should not be ticked as the preventive and control measures are not applicable for the specific disease or infection (e.g. vaccination in crustaceans).</li> <li>☞ In the WAHIS online notification application, preventive and control measures cannot be selected by users if no relevant for the disease.</li> </ul>
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**Official vaccination:** vaccination programme, excluding vaccination in response to the outbreak(s), which is approved and supervised by the Competent Authority.



**Number of animals vaccinated:** please enter the number of animal vaccinated during the semester.

**Important:**

- ☞ If these figures are not available please leave the box empty in the WAHIS online notification application or indicate “...” on the paper form.
- ☞ Please do not confuse it with vaccination in response to the outbreak(s) which is only done to control the spread of the disease.

Definitions of the different preventive and control measures are listed in Annex II.

**Important:**

- ☞ If there are differences in one or more of the applied measures according to the susceptible species, such as vaccination of fish but not wild fish, please indicate in front of the species concerned the relevant measures applied.
- ☞ If vaccination is applied, indicate for each species the number of vaccinated animals.
- ☞ Details of vaccination in response to the outbreak(s) as part of an outbreak eradication measure should be entered in Part 2 entitled “Quantitative information for OIE-listed aquatic animal diseases or infections present in the country”.
- ☞ In order to have consistency across the same year, make sure to process the same control measure for the first and the second semesters, unless there are specific reasons justifying a change.
- ☞ In the WAHIS online notification application, if the occurrence code is the same for both semesters, the control measures are automatically transferred from one six-month period to the next. **When the occurrence code is modified, all control measures disappear and therefore you should re-enter them.**











## PART 2



# QUANTITATIVE INFORMATION FOR OIE-LISTED AQUATIC ANIMAL DISEASES OR INFECTIONS PRESENT IN THE COUNTRY

### Instructions

Please choose one of the four templates according to the epidemiological situation of each OIE-listed aquatic animal disease or infection present in your country, taking into account the frequency and nature of information produced by your national animal disease surveillance and monitoring system.

- Template I: to process data by first administrative division and by month.
- Template II: to process data for the entire country by month.
- Template III: to process data by first administrative division for the six-month period.
- Template IV: to process data for the entire country for the six-month period.

#### **Important:**

- ☞ Choose the same template during the year for both six-monthly reports.
- ☞ When you report quantitative information for the first semester, make sure you also process quantitative information for the second semester.
- ☞ In the WAHIS online notification application, information on diseases already notified through immediate notifications and follow-up reports during the semester are automatically transferred in the on-going six-monthly report, with the name of the disease and months being displayed in blue.  
**Do not delete data coming from those reports.**

Type the name of the OIE-listed disease (see pages 11 to 13) in the space provided.

Provide details of the agent (strains, serotypes, etc.) where applicable and when serotyping has been done (e.g. for infectious salmon anaemia: HPR-deleted or HPRO genotypes). If the serotype is not known, please enter “not typed”.

**Important:** in the WAHIS online notification application, when a disease has a serotype, a check box appears in the square of each present disease. Selecting the check box for serotype means the disease details will be reported by the time and place and the serotype.

If you provide data by administrative division, enter the name(s) of the first administrative division(s) affected.

Enter the number of **new outbreak(s)** of the disease or infection that started during the reporting period, by serotype, if applicable.

#### **Important:**

- ☞ This number does not include the number of outbreaks that started before the reporting period and that are continuing
- ☞ If more than one serotype was involved, give the requested information for each serotype if this information is available.

Enter the **total number of outbreaks** (by serotype where applicable) that is the number of active outbreaks by the end of the previous month (if any) plus the number of new outbreaks recorded during the reporting month or the reporting semester.

**Important:** if you provide data by month, for the month(s) during which no outbreaks of the disease or infection occurred, enter 0 (zero) in the “new outbreaks” column. Then enter the total number of active outbreaks by the end of the previous month, if any.

Tick the appropriate box to indicate the chosen measuring units (animals, kilograms or tonnes).

**Important:** please use the same unit by disease and between semesters (animals, kilogrammes or tonnes, so that the system will be able to automatically sum the information and display the total animals in the summary table and in the annual report.

Enter the relevant species code(s) for domestic and wild aquatic animals (see Annex I).

Then enter the numbers of susceptible animals, cases, deaths, animals destroyed, animals slaughtered, for each susceptible species and for each affected first administrative division or the whole country, by referring to the definitions and explanations given below.

### **Definitions**

- ◆ **Susceptible animals:** animal(s) (measured in animals, tonnes or kilograms) in on-going active outbreak(s) during the reporting period.

**Important:**

- ☞ If the exact number or mass (kg or tonnes) is not known or an estimation is not possible, please leave the box empty in the WAHIS online notification application and indicate “...” on the paper form.
- ☞ Usually, for wild species, the field “susceptible animals” should be left empty on the on-line notification application and completed with “...” on the paper form, since it is hard to evaluate the exact number of the wild population at risk unless the data are known.
- ☞ For active outbreaks overlapping several months, in order to avoid duplications, the field “susceptible animals” should be filled for a given month with the number of animals which became susceptible during that month. If there is no new susceptible animal during a certain month, please leave the box empty in the WAHIS online notification application or indicate “...” on the paper form.

- ◆ **Cases:** animal(s) (measured in animals, tonnes or kilograms) infected, with or without clinical signs, including animals that died from the disease.

**Important:**

- ☞ If the exact number of animals or mass (kg or tonnes) is not known, please leave the box empty in the WAHIS online notification application and indicate “...” on the paper form.
- ☞ For active outbreaks overlapping several months, in order to avoid duplications, the field “cases” should be filled for a given month with the number of cases which started during that month. If there is no new case during a certain month, please enter “0”.

- ◆ **Deaths:** animal(s) (measured in animals, tonnes or kilograms) that died from the disease or infection.

**Important:**

- ☞ If the exact number of animals or mass (kg or tonnes) of dead animals is not known, please leave the box empty in the WAHIS online notification application and indicate “...” on the paper form.
- ☞ For active outbreaks overlapping several months, in order to avoid duplications, the field “deaths” should be filled for a given month with the number of animals which died during that month. If there is no new death during a certain month, please enter “0”.



- ◆ **Animals destroyed:** animal(s) (measured in animals, tonnes or kilograms) killed for disease control purposes and subjected to disposal.

**Important:**

- ☞ To avoid double counting, this number should not include animals that died from the disease and were then disposed.
- ☞ If the exact number of killed animals or mass (kg or tonnes) is not known, please leave the box empty in the WAHIS online notification application and indicate “...” on the paper form.
- ☞ Refer to Chapter 4.6 of the *Aquatic Animal Health Code* for disposal methods.
- ☞ For active outbreaks overlapping several months, in order to avoid duplications, the field “destroyed” should be filled for a given month with the number of animals which were destroyed during that month. If there is no new animal destroyed during a certain month, please enter “0”.

- ◆ **Slaughtered:** animal(s) (measured in animals, tonnes or kilograms) that were killed for disease control purposes with no or partial restrictions on the use of the aquatic animal products.

**Important:** This number should not include animals that died from the disease or animals killed for disease control purposes and subjected to disposal.

- ◆ **Vaccination in response to the outbreak(s): total number of animals (measured in animals, tonnes or kilograms) that were vaccinated as a control measure in response to the outbreak(s).**

**Important:**

- ☞ This number includes emergency, targeted and ring vaccination during the reporting period and excludes official vaccination undertaken as part of a routine vaccination programme.
- ☞ If more than one species have been vaccinated, indicate the number of animals vaccinated for each species.
- ☞ If the exact number of animals or mass (kg or tonnes) of vaccinated animals is not known, please leave the box empty in the WAHIS online notification application and indicate “...” on the paper form.
- ☞ For active outbreaks overlapping several months, in order to avoid duplications, the field “Vaccination in response to the outbreak(s)” should be filled for a given month with the number of animals which were vaccinated during that month. If there is no animal newly vaccinated during a certain month, please put “0”.

## TEMPLATE I: QUANTITATIVE INFORMATION BY FIRST ADMINISTRATIVE DIVISION BY MONTH

Name of OIE-listed aquatic animal disease:

Precise identification of agent (strains, serotypes, etc.) where applicable:

**Measuring units:**

Animals  Kilogramme  Tonnes

Period	First administrative division	Number of new outbreaks	Total number of outbreaks	Species Code*	Total number of (according to the used measuring unit)								
					susceptible animals	cases	deaths	animals destroyed	animals slaughtered	animals vaccinated in response to the outbreak(s)			
Month 1													
Month 2													
Month 3													
Month 4													
Month 5													
Month 6													

\* See Annex I

## TEMPLATE II: QUANTITATIVE INFORMATION FOR THE ENTIRE COUNTRY BY MONTH

Name of OIE-listed aquatic animal disease:

Precise identification of agent (strains, serotypes, etc.) where applicable:

**Measuring units:**

Animals  Kilogramme  Tonnes

Period	Number of new outbreaks	Total number of outbreaks	Species Code*	Total number of (according to the used measuring unit)						
				susceptible animals	cases	deaths	animals destroyed	animals slaughtered	animals vaccinated in response to the outbreak(s)	
Month 1										
Month 2										
Month 3										
Month 4										
Month 5										
Month 6										

\*See Annex I

### TEMPLATE III: QUANTITATIVE INFORMATION BY FIRST ADMINISTRATIVE DIVISION FOR THE SIX-MONTH PERIOD

Name of OIE-listed aquatic animal disease:

Precise identification of agent (strains, serotypes, etc.) where applicable:

**Measuring units:**

Animals  Kilogramme  Tonnes

First administrative division	Number of new outbreaks	Total number of outbreaks	Species Code*	Total number of (according to the used measuring unit)					
				susceptible animals	cases	deaths	animals destroyed	animals slaughtered	animals vaccinated in response to the outbreak(s)

\* See Annex I

### TEMPLATE IV: QUANTITATIVE INFORMATION FOR THE ENTIRE COUNTRY FOR THE SIX-MONTH PERIOD

Name of OIE-listed aquatic animal disease:

Precise identification of agent (strains, serotypes, etc.) where applicable:

**Measuring units:**

Animals  Kilogramme  Tonnes

Number of new outbreaks	Total number of outbreaks	Species Code*	Total number of (according to the used measuring unit)					animals vaccinated in response to the outbreak(s)
			susceptible animals	cases	deaths	animals destroyed	animals slaughtered	

\* See Annex I



**AQUATIC ANIMAL SPECIES CODES**

Fish .....	pis
Wild fish .....	pis (wild)
Crustaceans .....	cru
Wild crustaceans .....	cru (wild)
Molluscs .....	mol
Wild molluscs .....	mol (wild)
Amphibians .....	amp
Wild amphibians .....	amp (wild)

Demonstration version





**PREVENTIVE AND CONTROL MEASURES**  
**Definitions and Codes**

Use the following codes to indicate the disease preventive and control measures in force in your country:

<b>MEASURES</b>	<b>DEFINITIONS</b>
<b>Control of vectors</b>	<i>Implementing measures to control aquatic insect or any living carrier that transports an infectious agent from an infected individual to a susceptible individual or its food or immediate surroundings.</i>
<b>Control of wildlife reservoirs (Cr)</b>	<i>Measures to reduce the potential for wildlife to transmit the disease to farmed aquatic animals.</i>
<b>Disease notification (*)</b>	<i>National legal obligation to report any suspected or confirmed case of the disease or infection to the relevant Authorities.</i>
<b>General surveillance (GSu)</b>	<i>Surveillance not targeted at a specific disease or infection. Also called passive surveillance.</i>
<b>Modified stamping out (Sp)</b>	<i>Application of the measures described for "stamping out" only on a group of animals within the susceptible population (e.g. slaughter of cases only).</i>
<b>Monitoring (M)</b>	<i>Intermittent performance and analysis of routine measurements and observations, aimed at detecting changes in the environment or health status of a population.</i>
<b>Movement control inside the country (Qi)</b>	<i>Measures aimed at avoiding the spread of the disease or infection within a country/zone/compartiment due to the movement of animals or their products.</i>
<b>Number vaccinated</b>	<i>Total number of animals vaccinated under the official vaccination programme on a regular basis.</i>
<b>Official vaccination (V)</b>	<i>A vaccination programme, excluding vaccination in response to the outbreak(s), which is approved and supervised by the Competent Authority.</i>
<b>Precautions at the borders (Qf)</b>	<i>Measures applied at airports, ports, railway stations or road check-points open to international movement of animal, animal products and other related commodities, where import inspections are performed to prevent introduction of the disease or infection into a country/territory or zone.</i>
<b>Screening (Te)</b>	<i>Survey carried out within the framework of a control programme for the disease or infection for health qualification of aquaculture farms in all or part of the national territory.</i>
<b>Stamping out (S)</b>	<i>Killing of the aquatic animals that are affected, those suspected of being affected in the population and those in other populations that have been exposed to infection by direct or indirect contact of a kind likely to cause the transmission of the pathogenic agent. All these aquatic animals, vaccinated or unvaccinated, on an infected site should be killed and the carcasses destroyed by burning or burial, or by any other method that will eliminate the spread of infection through the carcasses or products of the aquatic animals destroyed. This policy should be accompanied by cleansing and disinfection procedures as defined in the Aquatic Code. Fallowing should be for an appropriate period determined by risk assessment.</i>
<b>Targeted Surveillance (TSu)</b>	<i>Surveillance targeted at a specific disease or infection. Also called active surveillance.</i>
<b>Treatment (T)</b>	<i>Use of veterinary drugs for affected animals for the purpose of controlling and curing the infection being notified. It should be noted that this measure does not include supportive treatment.</i>
<b>Vaccination in response to the outbreak(s)</b>	See page 17
<b>Vaccination prohibited (Vp)</b>	<i>As a general control policy, the use of a vaccine to control or prevent the disease or infection is prohibited.</i>
<b>Zoning (Z)</b>	<i>Delineation (by regulatory means) of part of a country/territory containing an animal subpopulation with a distinct health status or risk with respect to a specific disease or infection for which required surveillance, control and biosecurity measures have been applied for the purpose of international trade.</i>

Demonstration version

This procedure is also available on the web site  
dedicated to the Delegates to the OIE  
under the section “Disease Notification Documents”  
[http://web.oie.int/delegatweb/login\\_delegate.php](http://web.oie.int/delegatweb/login_delegate.php)  
and under the section “Help-Manuals-FAQ”  
of the WAHIS online notification application