



GUIDELINES



**Immediate notification and
follow-up reports
of a disease, an infection
or any other significant
epidemiological event**



Aquatic Animal Diseases

2011 Version

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INTRODUCTION

One of the main objectives of the OIE is to increase general awareness of disease problems associated with trade in live animals and animal products, including aquatic animals, and to promote means for diagnosis, control or prevention. To reach these objectives, the OIE's adopted approach is based upon the co-ordination of investigations of aquatic animal diseases for which international co-operation is essential, and collection of information on epizootics and control measures applied by OIE Members.

Notification of animal health information by Members occurs through their respective Veterinary/Animal Health Services. However, in some Member Countries, a national Authority other than the National Veterinary Services is responsible for aquatic animal health matters. In your role as Delegate of your country to the OIE, it is important to make sure that information on aquatic animal diseases is properly provided to the OIE, even if aquatic animal health is not dealt within the Veterinary Services and is not under your direct responsibility. In the latter case, a strong liaison with the relevant competent authorities for aquatic animal health in your country is essential to ensure a smooth flow of information on aquatic diseases to the OIE and from the OIE to the rest of the world.

These Guidelines have been prepared with the assistance of the Aquatic Animal Health Standards Commission's Bureau and are aimed at helping OIE Members better understand the requirements of the notification system and its definitions in order to fulfil their obligations arising from the revised terms of Article 1.1.3. of Chapter 1.1., entitled "notification of diseases and epidemiological information", of the *Aquatic Animal Health Code*, relating to the immediate notification of a disease, infection or other significant epidemiological event occurring in their countries (see Annex II of the present document).

Members are encouraged to use the on-line notification application WAHIS (<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 connexion problems, so as to provide quickly the information.

The events of epidemiological significance that should be immediately notified to the OIE Headquarters are the following:

- for diseases listed by the OIE, the first occurrence or re-occurrence of a disease in a country or zone or compartment of the country, if the country or zone or compartment of the country was previously considered to be free of that particular disease; or
- for diseases listed by the OIE, if the disease has occurred in a new host species; or
- for diseases listed by the OIE, if the disease has occurred with a new pathogen strain or in a new disease manifestation; or
- for diseases listed by the OIE, if the disease has a newly recognised zoonotic potential; or
- for diseases not listed by the OIE, if there is a case of an emerging disease or pathogenic agent should there be findings that are of epidemiological significance to other countries.

These Guidelines are intended in particular for focal points who have been nominated or designated by the OIE National Delegates to get used to the OIE's WAHIS on line notification system and provide the OIE Headquarters, under the authority of the Delegate, with information on aquatic animal diseases. This information is to be provided as per the requirements for immediate notification and follow-up, which constitute the basis for the OIE Early Warning System.

The Guidelines also provide a quick reference to help officials in OIE Members complete the notification form. Which parts of the form need to be filled in will depend on the reason for immediate notification. A special care to fill in only the required parts of the form should be made, since unlike the internet-based computer system WAHIS, no controls exist to avoid mistakes in paper forms.

The list of diseases adopted by the OIE International Committee in May 2010 came into effect in January 2011 (see Annex III).

DEMONSTRATION VERSION

**IMMEDIATE NOTIFICATION OR FOLLOW UP REPORT
OF A DISEASE, INFECTION OR
OTHER SIGNIFICANT EPIDEMIOLOGICAL EVENT**

This form is the core of the OIE Early Warning System for aquatic animal diseases. Special effort has been made to create a single reporting form that can be used in different epidemiological situations. The paper form should not be used anymore with the launch of WAHIS on line notification system (<https://www.oie.int/wahis/>), unless there is a major problem in using it. The paper form could be used exceptionally to notify the OIE Headquarters within 24 hours, by e-mail (information.dept@oie.int) or fax (+33 1 42 67 09 87) of the occurrence of a disease, infection or other significant epidemiological event, in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 1.1. of the *Aquatic Animal Health Code* (2010 Edition). Thereafter, it could also be used for weekly follow-up reports to provide progress reports on the evolution of the epidemiological situation related with the event that has been notified. In all cases, a final report should be submitted when the outbreak(s) has/have been eradicated or once a disease has become endemic. In the latter situation, notification should continue using the six-monthly report on the absence or presence and evolution of OIE listed diseases.

The printed form consists of two pages. You may add additional lines to the form as the need arises. When filling in the form, it is important to comply with the instructions given on pages 11 to 13 and to previously determine exactly what information is required. This is essential in order to achieve consistency and harmonisation of the information provided by all the OIE Members.

After ticking the reason for notification, the user is requested to study carefully the instructions given for each section of the form (see "How to complete the form" on pages 11 to 13). It is important to read and analyse these explanations in order to avoid any ambiguity or incoherence in the information provided and any subsequent misinterpretation of the data, whether by the OIE Headquarters or by the users of the information. The information provided should therefore be as precise and concise as possible.

To print out the form in A4 format using Microsoft Word, open the *File* menu and select *Print*. In the Print window, open the menu *Scale to paper size* and choose *A4*.

22. Laboratory(-ies) where diagnosis was made	23. Species examined	24. Number of animals examined	25. Diagnostic tests used	Date	Results

26. Source of outbreak(s) or origin of infection (tick as appropriate)	
Unknown or inconclusive	
Introduction of new live aquatic animals	
Introduction of new non-viable aquatic animal products	
Legal movement of animals	
Illegal movement of animals	
Aquatic animals in transit	
Contact with infected neighbouring establishment	
Feeding raw aquatic animal product	
Fomites (humans, vehicles, feed, etc.)	
Horizontal spread through water	
True vertical spread (through infected eggs or gametes)	
False vertical spread (through contaminated eggs or gametes)	
Vectors	
Contact with wild species	
Other	

27. Control measures (tick as appropriate)	Applied	To be applied
Movement control inside the country		
Vaccination in response to the outbreak(s) (give details below in section 29)		
Disinfection of infected premises/establishment(s)		
Quarantine		
Emergency harvest		
Tracing forward		
Tracing back		
Surveillance outside containment and/or buffer zone		
Official destruction of clinically diseased aquatic animals		
Stamping out		
Official destruction of aquatic animal products		
Official disposal of carcasses, by-products and waste		
Surveillance within containment and/or buffer zone		
Control of vectors		
Control of wildlife reservoirs		
Zoning		

28. Vaccination in response to the outbreak(s)			
First administrative division	Species	Total vaccinated	Details on the vaccine (live/inactivated; mono- or polyvalent, etc.)

29. Other details/ comments

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30. Treatment of infected animals Yes No
 If "yes", describe nature of treatment

31. Vaccination prohibited Yes No

32. Final report No
Yes If "Yes" => Event ended No => Continuing notification using the six-monthly report
Yes => Give a date of end of the event if the notified outbreaks have not been closed one by one

HOW TO COMPLETE THE FORM

(Please follow these instructions carefully)

Indicate the type of report by ticking "Immediate notification" or "Follow-up report". For follow-up reports indicate the number ("1" for the first follow-up report, "2" for the second, etc.) or "F" for the final report.

1-8. Complete report details and those of the reporting authority.

9. Tick one box only. If the reason for immediate notification is "b" (re-occurrence of a listed disease or infection in a country, zone/compartiment following a report declaring the outbreak(s) ended). You should indicate the date of last occurrence of the disease.

10. Indicate the disease name or, in the case of an infection, the name of the pathogen. Names of OIE-listed aquatic animal diseases are given in Annex III and IV. In the case of an emerging disease where the causative agent is unknown, select the clinical signs that best describe the event (e.g. kidney syndrome).

The OIE defines an emerging disease as: a newly recognised infection resulting from the evolution or change of an existing pathogenic agent, a known infection spreading to a new geographic area or population, or a previously unrecognised pathogenic agent or a disease diagnosed for the first time and which has a significant impact on aquatic animal or public health (Glossary of the *Aquatic Animal Health Code* – 2010 Edition).

11. Where possible, precise identification of agent, such as the strain or the serotype.

12. Put the host species name (common and Latin name), e.g. Pacific oyster (*Crassostrea gigas*) or Atlantic salmon (*Salmo salar*). Some examples are given in Annex IV.

13. Date (dd/mm/yyyy) of first confirmation of the event: This should be:

- for an infection/infestation with clinical signs: the date of the first time the disease was diagnosed (clinically, post-mortem or in the laboratory);
- for an infection without clinical signs: the date of the first confirmation by laboratory or penside testing;
- for other events: the date of the first detection of the change (e.g. evidence of a change in the prevalence of an OIE-listed disease, a sudden and unexpected increase in the distribution, incidence, morbidity or mortality of an OIE-listed disease prevalent within a country or zone/compartiment, etc.).

14. Date (dd/mm/yyyy) of start of the event: This is the date when the event was first observed (for example, first manifestation of a disease as observed by the fish farmer, etc.) or for subclinical infection, the date of collection of samples. If the exact date is not known, please provide an estimate date.

15. Tick 'Yes' for the presence or 'No' for the absence of clinical disease, in which case the notification is for an infection without clinical signs.

16. Tick one or more boxes, as appropriate.

17. Fill in this part, if the reason for immediate notification is described in **9c (occurrence in a new host species)**. Please indicate the name of the new host species affected, with its common and Latin name. Then go to section 21.

- 18a.** Fill in this part only if the reason for immediate notification is **9d (occurrence with a new pathogen strain)**. Please indicate the new strain. Then go to section 21.
- 18b.** Fill in this part only if the reason for immediate notification is **9d (occurrence with a new disease manifestation)**. Please indicate the new disease manifestation. Then go to section 21.
- 19.** Fill in this part only if the reason for immediate notification is **9e (newly recognised zoonotic potential)**. Please describe. Then go to section 21.
- 20.** Please indicate the name of the first administrative division where the event is occurring (e.g. Canada: provinces; Egypt: Mouhafadhats; United States of America: States). The name of lower administrative divisions where the event is occurring should also be given. At least the subunit of the first administrative division (e.g. district) should be mentioned.

The OIE headquarters strongly recommends countries to provide information outbreak-by-outbreak within each affected first administrative division.

Indicate the type of epidemiological unit (river system, lake/reservoir, coastal area, estuary, shellfish bed, etc.) and the name of the location where the event is occurring (lake, bay, river, farm, village, town, city, etc.).

In exceptional circumstances, such as if the country is experiencing a very large number of outbreaks and it is not possible to provide information outbreak-by-outbreak, aggregated information on the outbreaks by first administrative division is acceptable.

Each outbreak should be georeferenced with coordinates enabling it to be located on a map. The latitude (North and South) and longitude (East and West) must be expressed in either:

- a) decimal format: e.g. Achill Sound, county of Mayo, Ireland (53,929 North – 9,932 West);
- b) DMS (degrees, minutes and seconds: $dd^{\circ} mm' ss''$): e.g. Dungeness bay, Washington, United States of America (48° 09' 00" N – 123° 07' 00" W).

If the exact coordinates are not known, please provide an estimate.

The date of start of the outbreak is the date when the outbreak was first observed (for example, first manifestation of a disease as observed by the fish farmer, etc.) or for subclinical infection, the date of collection of samples. If the exact date is not known, please provide an estimate date.

The date of start should be registered for each outbreak. If clinical disease occurs, please indicate for each category the requested information on animals in each outbreak.

For outbreaks that have been controlled, indicate the closing date of the outbreaks.

For each outbreak, describe the concerned species using the species codes listed on page 14 and enter the number(s) of animals by species. If there are no deaths, destroyed or slaughtered animals, enter "0". Where the number of animals relating to any column is not known, enter "...".

- * **species:** use the aquatic animal species **codes** given on page 14.
- * **susceptible:** aquatic animals present in the outbreak at the beginning of the period covered by the report.

- * **cases:** infected or moribund animals + animals that died from the disease.
- * **deaths:** aquatic animals that died from the disease.
- * **destroyed:** aquatic animals killed and destroyed for disease control purposes.
Important: This number should not include animals that died from the disease.
- * **slaughtered:** aquatic animals killed for disease control purposes with no restrictions on their use.
Important: This number should not include animals that were destroyed.

} during the period covered by the report

21. Give a description of the various categories of animals present in the outbreak (farmed or marine; wild or fresh water, open or semi-open farming system, etc.).
22. For each laboratory where the diagnosis was made, state the full name, the city and the country.
23. Please indicate the aquatic animal species examined.
25. Wherever possible, use the terms listed on page 16. Laboratory results and their date(s) must be given.
26. Tick the appropriate boxes to indicate the source(s) of the outbreak(s) or the origin of infection.
27. Tick the appropriate boxes to indicate the control measures that have started or have already been undertaken and those that are going to be undertaken.
28. This includes the total number of aquatic animals vaccinated in response to the outbreak(s) and not vaccination undertaken as part of a routine vaccination programme. If more than one species has been vaccinated, indicate the number of animals vaccinated for each species. Details of the vaccine should be given, such as: live (attenuated) or inactivated (killed) vaccine; monovalent or polyvalent vaccine; antigenic type.
29. In this section, please provide any other relevant information, in relation with additional epidemiological details or control measures (e.g. composition and size of the surveillance zone, the buffer zone, etc.) or any other useful information in relation with the event.
30. "Treatment of infected animals" means that the animals involved in the outbreak(s) are curatively treated (using medicinal drugs, etc.). If animals are treated, the nature of the treatment should be specified. For veterinary medicinal products, please indicate only the name of the active principle and not the names of commercial drugs.
31. "Vaccination prohibited" means that the use of a vaccine to control the outbreaks(s) is prohibited under any circumstances.
32. For all events notified using the immediate notification or follow-up report form, a final report should be submitted. It should indicate whether the event has ended or, if not, that notification will continue by means of the six-monthly report.

The outbreaks can be closed one by one giving a date of end for each one at every moment during the reporting period or you can close the event (close all the outbreaks) at a single date when making a final report.

AQUATIC ANIMAL SPECIES

Codes

fish	pis
wild (fish)	pis (wild)
crustaceans	cru
wild (crustaceans)	cru (wild)
molluscs	mol (wild)
wild (molluscs)	mol (wild)
amphibians	amp
wild (amphibians)	amp (wild)

DEMONSTRATION VERSION

DISEASE CONTROL MEASURES

Definitions

Movement control inside the country

Measures aimed at avoiding the spread of the disease within a country: diagnostic tests in the herd of origin before loading, certificates accompanying animals in transit specifying the health status of the herd of origin, controls on entry into a new herd or an abattoir, etc.

Vaccination in response to the outbreak(s)

Vaccination of susceptible aquatic animals within the affected locations.

Disinfection of infected premises/establishment(s)

Application, after thorough cleansing, of procedures intended to destroy the infectious or parasitic agents of animal diseases, including zoonoses; this applies to aquaculture establishments (i.e. hatcheries, fish farms, oyster farms, shrimp farms, nurseries, etc.), vehicles and different equipments/objects which may have been directly or indirectly contaminated.

Quarantine

Means maintaining a group of aquatic animals in isolation with no direct or indirect contact with other aquatic animals, in order to undergo observation for a specified length of time and, if appropriate, testing and treatment, including proper treatment of the effluent waters.

Emergency harvest

Harvest of a culture aquatic species prior to the anticipated harvest time in order to stop or prevent the spread of the disease.

Tracing forward

Investigations of movements from an identified premises to other premises, in order to determine where the infection may have spread to.

Tracing back

Investigation of the origin of movements onto an identified infected premises to determine the possible source of infection.

Surveillance outside containment and/or buffer zone

Undertaking surveillance activities in parts of the country other than those defined as the containment or buffer zone (ie those areas that are not thought to be affected by the infection).

Official destruction of clinically diseased aquatic animals

Destruction of clinically affected live aquatic animals under the supervision of the competent authority, such that their products can not be used for human consumption or other purposes, to limit the spread of disease.

Stamping out

Means the carrying out under the authority of the Competent Authority, on confirmation of a disease, of preventive aquatic animal health measures, consisting of killing 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 disease 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*. Following should be for an appropriate period determined by risk assessment.

Official destruction of aquatic animal products

Destruction of the products of aquatic animals under the supervision of the competent authority, to prevent spreading infection.

Official disposal of carcasses, by-products and waste

Disposal of animal products (carcasses, by-products and waste) under the supervision of the competent authority to ensure that it does not pose a risk of spreading infection.

Surveillance within containment and/or buffer zone

Limitations on the movement of animals supported by official legislation or regulations in force, which may involve a complete ban on movement of animals into or out of some areas, or requirements for official certification prior to movement.

Control of vectors

Control of disease vectors, organisms which may spread infection from one host to another.

Control of wildlife reservoirs

Programmes to reduce the potential for wild species to transmit the disease to farmed aquatic animals.

Zoning

Delineation (by regulatory means) of free, surveillance and/or buffer, and infected zones within the country for disease control purposes.

DIAGNOSTIC TESTS

Examples

agar-gel immunodiffusion (AGID)
agar-gel precipitation (AGP) test
anatomy-pathological examination
antibody detection ELISA
antigen (Ag) detection ELISA
artificial digestion method
bacteriological examination
Coggin's test
competitive ELISA (c-ELISA)
complement fixation test (CFT)
direct fluorescent antibody (FAT) test
direct immunofluorescence (DIF) test
DNA microarray
electroimmunotransfer blot assay (EITB)
electron microscopy
ELISA 3ABC
entomological investigations
enzyme immunoassay (EIA) membrane test
enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay (ELISA)
fluorescence polarisation assay (FPA)
fluorescent antibody virus neutralisation (FAVN)
gene sequencing
haemagglutination (HA) test
haemagglutination inhibition test (HIT)
histological test
histopathological examination
identification by bacteriophage susceptibility
IgM-capture ELISA
immune electron microscopy
immunocapture ELISA
immuno-electrophoresis test (IEPT)
immunohistochemical test
immunoperoxidase monolayer assay (IPMA)
immunoperoxidase procedure for differentiation of pestiviruses by monoclonal antibodies
in situ hybridisation (ISH)
indirect ELISA
indirect fluorescent antibody (IFA) test
indirect sandwich ELISA
inoculation test
intracerebral pathogenicity index (ICPI) test
intravenous pathogenicity index (IVPI) test
isoenzyme studies

liquid-phase (LP) blocking ELISA
luminescence immunoassay
mallein test
Microagglutination test
microscopic agglutination test (MAT)
microscopic examination of larvae
monoclonal antibodies (Mab) test
nested RT-PCR
neuraminidase inhibition assay
non-structural protein ELISA
NPLA (Neutralising peroxidase-linked assay)
nucleotide sequencing
optical microscopy
parasitological examination
pathogen isolation by egg inoculation
pathogen isolation on cell culture
phylogenetic analysis; phylogenetic characterisation of the virus
plaque reduction neutralisation test (PRN)
plate agglutination test
polyacrylamide gel electrophoresis (PAGE)
polymerase chain reaction (PCR)
rapid serum agglutination (RSA)
rapid tests
real-time PCR
real-time reverse transcriptase/polymerase chain reaction (RRT-PCR)
reverse transcription – polymerase chain reaction (RT-PCR)
rose bengal test (RBT)
Seller's test
seroneutralization test (SNT)
serotyping
Solid-phase competitive ELISA
tissue imprints
tube agglutination test (TAT)
tuberculin test
typing ELISA
virus isolation
virus neutralisation test (VNT)
virus sequencing
virus-infection-associated antigen (VIAA)
western blotting

**DATE FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE
MODIFIED OIE LIST OF ANIMAL DISEASES**

Resolution No. XXIX adopted by the International Committee of the OIE on 25 May 2005

CONSIDERING

The adoption of Resolution No. XXIII relating to the OIE lists of diseases during the 69th General Session in May 2001,

That one of the principal objectives of the OIE is to inform Governments on the occurrence, evolution and distribution of animal diseases and zoonoses throughout the world and on the methods of control and prevention that are implemented,

The results of the work of the Ad hoc Group on diseases / pathogenic agent notification and their examination by the relevant OIE Specialist Commissions,

The adoption of Resolution No. XXVI on amendments to the OIE *Terrestrial Animal Health Code* during the 73rd General Session in May 2005,

THE COMMITTEE

DECIDES THAT

1. In case of modifications of the list of animal diseases resulting from amendments to the *Terrestrial Animal Health Code* and /or the *Aquatic Animal Health Code* during each annual General Session the new list come into force on 1 January of the following year.
2. In case of modification the list of animal diseases adopted during each General Session remains in application and unchanged until 31 December of the same year.

NOTIFICATION OF DISEASES AND EPIDEMIOLOGICAL INFORMATION

Chapter 1.1 of the *Aquatic Animal Health Code* (2010 Edition)

Article 1.1.1.

For the purposes of the *Aquatic Code* and in terms of Articles 5, 9 and 10 of the Statutes, every Member of the OIE shall recognise the right of the *Headquarters* to communicate directly with the *Veterinary Authority* of its *territory* or *territories*.

All *notifications* and all information sent by the OIE to the *Veterinary Authority* shall be regarded as having been sent to the country concerned and all *notifications* and all information sent to the OIE by the *Veterinary Authority* shall be regarded as having been sent by the country concerned.

Article 1.1.2.

1. Countries shall make available to other countries, through the OIE, whatever information is necessary to minimise the spread of *aquatic animal diseases* and their aetiological agents and to assist in achieving better world-wide control of these *diseases*.
2. To achieve this, countries shall comply with the reporting requirements specified in Article *1.1.3*.
3. To assist in the clear and concise exchange of information, reports shall conform as closely as possible to the current OIE *disease* reporting format.
4. Recognising that scientific knowledge concerning the relationship between *pathogenic agents* and *diseases* is constantly evolving and that the presence of an infectious agent does not necessarily imply the presence of a *disease*, countries shall ensure through their reports that they comply with the spirit and intention of paragraph 1 above. This means that the presence of an infectious agent, even in the absence of clinical *disease*, should be reported.
5. In addition to notifying findings in accordance with Article *1.1.3*, countries shall also provide information on the measures taken to prevent the spread of *diseases*, including possible *quarantine* measures and restrictions on the movement of *aquatic animals*, *aquatic animal products*, *biological products* and other miscellaneous objects that could by their nature be responsible for transmission of *disease*. In the case of *diseases* transmitted by vectors, the measures taken against such vectors shall also be described.

Article 1.1.3.

The *Veterinary Authority* shall send to the OIE:

1. Immediate *notification* (within 24 hours) by fax or electronically, of any of the following events:
 - a. for *diseases listed by the OIE*, the first occurrence or re-occurrence of a *disease* in a country or *zone* or *compartment* of the country, if the country or *zone* or *compartment* of the country was previously considered to be free of that particular *disease*; or
 - b. for *diseases listed by the OIE*, if the *disease* has occurred in a new host species; or
 - c. for *diseases listed by the OIE*, if the *disease* has occurred with a new pathogen strain or in a new *disease* manifestation; or
 - d. for *diseases listed by the OIE*, if the disease has newly recognised zoonotic potential; or
 - e. for *diseases* not listed by the OIE, if there is a case of an *emerging disease* or pathogenic agent should there be findings that are of epidemiological significance to other countries.

Annex II (Contd.)

In deciding whether findings justify immediate notification (within 24 hours), countries must ensure that they comply with the obligations of Chapters 5.1 and 5.2 of the Aquatic Code (especially Article 5.1.1.), to report developments that may have implications for international trade.

2. Weekly reports by fax or electronically subsequent to a notification under paragraph 1 above, to provide further information on the evolution of an incident that justified immediate notification. These reports should continue until the disease has been eradicated or the situation has become sufficiently stable that six-monthly reporting under point 3 will satisfy the obligation of the country to the OIE; in each case, a final report on the incident should be submitted.
3. Six-monthly reports on the absence or presence and evolution of diseases listed by the OIE, and findings of epidemiological significance to other countries with respect to diseases that are not listed.
4. An annual questionnaire concerning any other information of significance to other countries.

Article 1.1.4.

1. The Veterinary Authority of a country in which an infected zone or compartment was located shall inform the Headquarters when this zone or compartment is free from the disease.
2. An infected zone or compartment of a disease shall be considered as such until a period exceeding the known infective period for the disease in question has elapsed after the last reported outbreak and when full prophylactic and appropriate sanitary measures have been applied to prevent possible reappearance or spread of the disease. These measures will be found in detail in the various chapters of Section 8. to Section 11. of the Aquatic Code.
3. A country may again declare itself free (i.e. self declaration of freedom from disease) from a specific disease when it complies with all the conditions given in the corresponding chapters of Section 8. to Section 11. of of the Aquatic Code.
4. The Veterinary Authority of a country in which one or more free zones or compartments have been established may wish to inform the Headquarters, giving necessary particulars of the zones or compartments and describing their location (e.g. by a map or other precise locators such as GPS [Global Positioning System] co-ordinates). The Headquarters may publish this information.

Article 1.1.5.

1. The Headquarters shall send by fax or electronically to the Veterinary Authority concerned, all notifications received as provided in Articles 1.1.2.- 1.1.4.
2. The Headquarters shall notify Members through Disease Information of any event of exceptional epidemiological significance reported by a Member.

**OIE-LISTED DISEASES OF FISH, MOLLUSCS,
CRUSTACEANS AND AMPHIBIANS**

Chapter 1.3. of the *Aquatic Animal Health Code* (2010 Edition)

Article 1.3.1.

The following diseases of fish are listed by the OIE:

- Epizootic haematopoietic necrosis
- Epizootic ulcerative syndrome
- Gyrodactylosis (*Gyrodactylus salaris*)
- Infectious haematopoietic necrosis
- Infectious salmon anaemia
- Koi herpesvirus disease
- Red sea bream iridoviral disease
- Spring viraemia of carp
- Viral haemorrhagic septicaemia.

Article 1.3.2.

The following diseases of molluscs are listed by the OIE:

- Infection with abalone herpes-like virus
- Infection with *Bonamia ostreae*
- Infection with *Bonamia exitiosa*
- Infection with *Marteilia refringens*
- Infection with *Perkinsus marinus*
- Infection with *Perkinsus olseni*
- Infection with *Xenohaliotis californiensis*.

Article 1.3.3.

The following diseases of crustaceans are listed by the OIE:

- Crayfish plague (*Aphanomyces astaci*)
- Infectious hypodermal and haematopoietic necrosis
- Infectious myonecrosis
- Necrotising hepatopancreatitis
- Taura syndrome
- White spot disease
- White tail disease
- Yellow head disease.

Article 1.3.4.

The following diseases of amphibians are listed by the OIE:

- Infection with *Batrachochytrium dendrobatidis*
- Infection with ranavirus.

**COMMON AND SCIENTIFIC (LATIN) NAMES
OF SOME AQUATIC ANIMAL SPECIES
SUSCEPTIBLE TO OIE-LISTED DISEASES**

Fish

amago salmon	<i>Oncorhynchus rhodurus</i>
Atlantic cod	<i>Gadus morhua</i>
Atlantic salmon	<i>Salmo salar</i>
bighead carp	<i>Aristichthys nobilis</i>
brown trout	<i>Salmo trutta</i>
catfish	<i>Ictalurus melas, I. punctatus</i>
chinook salmon	<i>Oncorhynchus tshawytscha</i>
chum salmon	<i>Oncorhynchus keta</i>
coho salmon	<i>Oncorhynchus kisutch</i>
common carp	<i>Cyprinus carpio</i>
crucian carp	<i>Carassius carassius</i>
goldfish	<i>Carassius auratus</i>
grass carp	<i>Ctenopharyngodon idellus</i>
grayling	<i>Thymallus thymallus</i>
haddock	<i>Gadus aeglefinus</i>
herring	<i>Clupea</i> spp.
mosquito fish	<i>Gambusia affinis</i>
Pacific cod	<i>Gadus macrocephalus</i>
Pacific salmon	<i>Oncorhynchus</i> spp.
pike	<i>Esox lucius</i>
rainbow trout	<i>Oncorhynchus mykiss</i>
redfin perch	<i>Perca fluviatilis</i>
rockling	<i>Onos mustelus</i>
sheatfish	<i>Silurus glanis</i>
silver carp	<i>Hypophthalmichthys molitrix</i>
silver perch	<i>Bidyanus bidyanus</i>
sockeye salmon	<i>Oncorhynchus nerka</i>
tench	<i>Tinca tinca</i>
turbot	<i>Scophthalmus maximus</i>
yamame salmon	<i>Oncorhynchus masou</i>

Molluscs

abalone	<i>Haliotis</i> spp.
American oyster	<i>Crassostrea virginica</i>
Argentinean oyster	<i>Ostrea puelchana</i>
Australian mud oyster	<i>Ostrea angasi</i>
Chilean flat oyster	<i>Ostrea chilensis (Tiostrongia lutaria)</i>
European flat oyster	<i>Ostrea edulis</i>
Pacific oyster	<i>Crassostrea gigas</i>
Portuguese oyster	<i>Crassostrea angulata</i>
Sydney rock oyster	<i>Saccostrea glomerata</i>

Crustaceans

black tiger shrimp or giant tiger prawn	<i>Penaeus monodon</i>
Gulf pink shrimp	<i>Penaeus duorarum</i>
kuruma prawn	<i>Penaeus japonicus</i>
Northern white shrimp	<i>Penaeus setiferus</i>
Pacific blue shrimp	<i>Penaeus stylirostris</i>
Pacific white shrimp	<i>Penaeus vannamei</i>

GENERAL DEFINITIONS

Extracts from the Glossary of the *Aquatic Animal Health Code* (2010 Edition)

For the purposes of the Aquatic Code:

Aquaculture

means the farming of aquatic animals with some sort of intervention in the rearing process to enhance production, such as regular stocking, feeding, protection from predators, etc.

Aquaculture establishment

means an establishment in which fish, molluscs or crustaceans for breeding, stocking or marketing are raised or kept.

[...]

Aquatic animals

means all life stages (including eggs and gametes) of fish, molluscs, crustaceans and amphibians originating from aquaculture establishments or removed from the wild, for farming purposes, for release into the environment, for human consumption or for ornamental purposes.

[...]

Case

means an individual aquatic animal infected by a pathogenic agent, with or without clinical signs.

Case definition

is a set of criteria used to distinguish a case animal or an epidemiological unit from a non-case.

[...]

Compartment

means one or more aquaculture establishments under a common biosecurity management system containing an aquatic animal population with a distinct health status with respect to a specific disease or diseases for which required surveillance and control measures are applied and basic biosecurity conditions are met for the purpose of international trade. Such compartments must be clearly documented by the Competent Authority(ies).

Competent Authority

means the Veterinary Authority or other Governmental Authority of a Member having the responsibility and competence for ensuring or supervising the implementation of aquatic animal health and welfare measures, international health certification and other standards and recommendations in the *Aquatic Code* in the whole territory.

[...]

Diagnosis

means determination of the nature of a disease.

Disease

means clinical or non clinical infection with one or more of the aetiological agents of the diseases referred to in the *Aquatic Code*.

[...]

Disinfectants

means chemical compounds capable of destroying pathogenic microorganisms or inhibiting their growth or survival ability.

Disinfection

means the application, after thorough cleansing, of procedures intended to destroy the infectious or parasitic agents of diseases of aquatic animals, including zoonoses; this applies to aquaculture establishments (i.e. hatcheries, fish farms, oyster farms, shrimp farms, nurseries, etc.), vehicles, and different equipment/objects that may have been directly or indirectly contaminated.

Early detection system

means an efficient system for ensuring the rapid recognition of signs that are suspicious of a listed disease, or an emerging disease situation, or unexplained mortality, in aquatic animals in an aquaculture establishment or in the wild, and the rapid communication of the event to the Competent Authority, with the aim of activating diagnostic investigation by the Aquatic Animal Health Services with minimal delay. Such a system will include the following characteristics:

- a. broad awareness, e.g. among the personnel employed at aquaculture establishments or involved in processing, of the characteristic signs of the listed diseases and emerging diseases;
- b. veterinarians or aquatic health professionals trained in recognising and reporting suspicious disease occurrence;
- c. ability of the Aquatic Animal Health Services to undertake rapid and effective disease investigation based on a national chain of command;
- d. access by the Aquatic Animal Health Services to laboratories with the facilities for diagnosing and differentiating listed diseases and emerging diseases;
- e. the legal obligation of private veterinarians or aquatic animal health professionals to report suspicions of disease occurrence to the Competent Authority.

[...]

Epidemiological unit

means a group of animals that share approximately the same risk of exposure to a pathogenic agent with a defined location. This may be because they share a common aquatic environment (e.g. fish in a pond, caged fish in a lake), or because management practices make it likely that a pathogenic agent in one group of animals would quickly spread to other animals (e.g. all the ponds on a farm, all the ponds in a village system).

[...]

Following

means, for disease management purposes, an operation where an aquaculture establishment is emptied of aquatic animals susceptible to a disease of concern or known to be capable of transferring the pathogenic agent, and, where feasible, of the carrying water. For aquatic animals of unknown susceptibility and those agreed not to be capable of acting as carriers of a disease of concern, decisions on following should be based on a risk assessment.

[...]

Free compartment

means a compartment that fulfils the requirements for self-declaration of freedom from disease with respect to the disease(s) under consideration, according to the relevant chapter(s) in the *Aquatic Code*.

[...]

Free zone

means a zone that fulfils the requirements for self-declaration of freedom from disease with respect to the disease(s) under consideration according to the relevant chapter(s) in the *Aquatic Code*.

Frontier post

means any international airport or any port, railway station or road post open to international trade.

[...]

Incidence

means the number of new outbreaks of disease within a specified period of time in a defined aquatic animal population.

Infected zone

means a zone in which a disease has been diagnosed.

Infection

means the presence of a multiplying or otherwise developing or latent pathogenic agent in a host. This term is understood to include infestation where the pathogenic agent is a parasite in or on a host.

Infective period

means the longest period during which an affected aquatic animal can be a source of infection.

[...]

Outbreak

means an occurrence of one or more cases in an epidemiological unit.

[...]

Prevalence

means the total number of infected aquatic animals expressed as a percentage of the total number of aquatic animals in a given aquatic animal population at one specific time.

[...]

Protection zone

means a zone established to protect the health status of aquatic animals in a free country or free zone, from those in a country or zone of a different aquatic animal health status, using measures based on the epidemiology of the disease under consideration to prevent spread of the pathogenic agent into a free country or free zone. These measures may include, but are not limited to, vaccination, movement control and an intensified degree of surveillance.

Quarantine

means maintaining a group of aquatic animals in isolation with no direct or indirect contact with other aquatic animals, in order to undergo observation for a specified length of time and, if appropriate, testing and treatment, including proper treatment of the effluent waters.

[...]

Sanitary measure

means a measure, such as those described in various Chapters of the *Aquatic Code*, destined to protect aquatic animal or human health or life within the territory of the OIE Member from risks arising from the entry, establishment and/or spread of a hazard.

[...]

Stamping-out policy

means the carrying out under the authority of the Competent Authority, on confirmation of a disease, of preventive aquatic animal health measures, consisting of killing 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.

[...]

Surveillance

means a systematic series of investigations of a given population of aquatic animals to detect the occurrence of disease for control purposes, and which may involve testing samples of a population.

Susceptible species

means a species of aquatic animal in which infection has been demonstrated by natural cases or by experimental exposures to the disease agent that mimics the natural pathways for infection. Each disease chapter in the *Aquatic Code* and in the *Aquatic Manual* contains a list of currently known susceptible species.

Target population

means, for the purposes of demonstrating freedom from infection, the population of interest, usually made up of all aquatic animals of species susceptible to a specified pathogenic agent in a defined country, zone or aquaculture establishment.

Targeted surveillance

means surveillance targeted at a specific disease or infection.

Territory

means land and water under jurisdiction of a country.

[...]

Unit

means individually identifiable elements. This is a generic concept used to describe, for example, the members of a population, or the elements selected when sampling. In these contexts, examples of units include individual animals, ponds, nets, cages, farms, villages, districts, etc.

[...]

Veterinary Authority

means the Governmental Authority of an OIE Member, comprising veterinarians, other professionals and para-professionals, having the responsibility and competence for ensuring or supervising the implementation of aquatic animal health and welfare measures, international aquatic animal health certification and other standards and recommendations in the *Aquatic Code* in the whole territory.

[...]

Zone

means a portion of one or more countries comprising:

- a. an entire water catchment from the source of a waterway to the estuary or lake, or
- b. more than one water catchment, or
- c. part of a water catchment from the source of a waterway to a barrier that prevents the introduction of a specific disease or diseases, or
- d. part of a coastal area with a precise geographical delimitation, or
- e. an estuary with a precise geographical delimitation,

that consists of a contiguous hydrological system with a distinct health status with respect to a specific disease or diseases. The zones must be clearly documented (e.g. by a map or other precise locators such as GPS co-ordinates) by the Competent Authority(ies).

DEMONSTRATION VERSION

**These guidelines are also available
under the section “Disease notification documents”
of the dedicated OIE Delegates web site
https://www.oie.int/delegatesite/eng/en_index.php**