

GLOSSARY

For the purpose 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 animal health status

means the status of a country, *zone* or *compartment* with respect to an *aquatic animal disease*, according to the criteria listed in the relevant chapter of the *Aquatic Code* dealing with the *disease*.

Aquatic animal products

means non-viable *aquatic animals* and products from *aquatic animals*.

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.

Aquatic Code

means the OIE *Aquatic Animal Health Code*.

Aquatic Manual

means the OIE *Manual of Diagnostic Tests for Aquatic Animals*.

Basic biosecurity conditions

means a set of conditions applying to a particular *disease*, and a particular *zone* or country, required to ensure adequate disease security, such as:

- a) the *disease*, including suspicion of the *disease*, is compulsorily notifiable to the *Competent Authority*; and
- b) an *early detection system* is in place within the *zone* or country; and
- c) import requirements to prevent the introduction of *disease* into the country or *zone*, as outlined in the *Aquatic Code*, are in place.

Bias

means a tendency of an estimate to differ in a non-random fashion from the true value of a population parameter.

Biological products

means:

- a) biological reagents for use in the *diagnosis* of certain *diseases*;
- b) sera for use in the prevention and treatment of certain *diseases*;
- c) inactivated or modified vaccines for use in preventive vaccination against certain *diseases*;
- d) genetic material of infectious agents;
- e) endocrine tissues from fish or used in fish.

Biosecurity plan

means a plan that identifies significant potential pathways for the introduction and spread of *disease* in a *zone* or *compartment*, and describes the measures which are being, or will be, applied to mitigate the *risks* to introduce and spread *disease*, taking into consideration the recommendations in the *Aquatic Code*. The plan should also describe how these measures are audited, with respect to both their implementation and their targeting, to ensure that the *risks* are regularly re-assessed and the measures adjusted accordingly.

Buffer 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 *disease agent* into a *free country* or *free zone*.

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.

Central Bureau

means the Permanent Secretariat of the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE), the headquarters of which are:

12, rue de Prony, 75017 Paris, FRANCE
Telephone: 33-(0)1 44 15 18 88
Fax: 33-(0)1 42 67 09 87
Electronic mail: oi@oie.int
WWW: <http://www.oie.int>

Certifying official

means a person authorised by the *Competent Authority* to sign health certificates for *aquatic animals*.

Commodity

means *aquatic animals*, *aquatic animal products*, *biological products* and *pathological material*.

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 Services*, or other Authority of a Member, having the responsibility and competence for ensuring or supervising the implementation of the *aquatic animal* health measures or other standards in the *Aquatic Code*.

Container

means a transport appliance:

- a) of a permanent type and sufficiently strong to enable repeated use;
- b) specially constructed to facilitate transport of *aquatic animals* or *aquatic animal products* by one or several means of transport;
- c) provided with fittings that make it easy to manipulate, particularly for trans-shipment from one kind of transport *vehicle* to another;
- d) constructed in a watertight way, easy to load and unload and capable of being cleansed and disinfected;
- e) ensuring safe and optimal transport of *aquatic animals*.

Contingency plan

means a documented work plan designed to ensure that all needed actions, requirements and resources are provided in order to eradicate or bring under control *outbreaks* of specified *diseases* of *aquatic animals*.

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*.

Disease agent

means an organism that causes or contributes to the development of a *disease* 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 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 animal* health specialists trained in recognising and reporting suspicious *disease* occurrence;
- c) ability of the *Competent Authority* to undertake rapid and effective *disease* investigation;
- d) access by the *Competent Authority* to laboratories with the facilities for diagnosing and differentiating *listed diseases* and *emerging diseases*.

Egg

means a viable fertilised *ovum* of an *aquatic animal*. 'Green eggs' means newly fertilised ova of fish. 'Eyed eggs' means *eggs* of fish where the eyes of the embryo are visible and that the *eggs* may be transported.

Emerging disease

means a newly recognised serious *disease*, the cause of which may or may not yet be established, that has the potential to be spread within and between populations, for example by way of trade in *aquatic animals* and/or *aquatic animal products*.

Epidemiological unit

means a group of animals that share approximately the same *risk* of exposure to a *disease 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 *disease 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).

Eviscerated fish

means fish from which internal organs, excluding the brain and gills, have been removed.

Exporting country

means a country from which *aquatic animals* or *aquatic animal products*, *biological products* or *pathological material* are sent to a destination in another country.

Fallowing

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 *disease 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 *fallowing* should be based on a *risk assessment*.

Feed

means any material (single or multiple), whether processed, semi-processed or raw that is intended to be fed directly to *aquatic animals*.

Feed additives

means any ingredient intentionally added in micro-amounts not normally consumed as *feed* by itself, whether or not it has nutritional value, which affects the characteristics of *feed* or animal products. Micro-organisms, enzymes, acidity regulators, trace elements, vitamins, substances used to attract *aquatic animals* to feed and promote *feed* intake, pigments, synthetic binders, synthetic amino acids, antioxidants and other products fall within the scope of this definition, depending on the purpose of use and method of administration. This excludes veterinary drugs.

Feed ingredient

means a component, part or constituent of any combination or mixture making up a *feed*, including *feed additives*, whether or not it has a nutritional value in the animal's diet. Ingredients may be of terrestrial or aquatic, plant or animal origin and may be organic or inorganic substances.

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 country

means a country 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*.

Gametes

means the sperm or unfertilised *eggs* of *aquatic animals* that are held or transported separately prior to fertilisation.

Hazard

means any pathogen that could produce adverse consequences on the importation of a *commodity*.

Hazard identification

means the process of identifying the pathogenic agents that could potentially be introduced in the *commodity* considered for importation.

Importing country

means a country that is the final destination to which *aquatic animals*, *aquatic animal products*, *biological products* or *pathological material* are sent.

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. The *infected zone* must be clearly defined by the *Competent Authority(ies)* concerned and may be separated from the rest of the country by a *buffer zone*.

Infection

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

International aquatic animal health certificate

means a certificate issued by a member of the *personnel of the Competent Authority* of the *exporting country*, certifying the state of health of the *aquatic animals*, and a declaration that the *aquatic animals* originate from a source subjected to official health *surveillance* according to the procedures described in the *Aquatic Manual*.

International trade

means import, export or transit of *aquatic animals*, *aquatic animal products*, *biological products* and *pathological material*.

Live feed

means live farmed or wild caught animals and algae used as *feed* for *aquatic animals*. Live feed is often fed to *aquatic animal* species at an early life-stage and to *aquatic animal* species that have been cultured for a relatively short time.

Meal

means a product derived from an *aquatic animal* that has been ground and heat processed to reduce the moisture content to less than 10%.

Notification

means the procedure by which:

- a) the *Veterinary Authority* informs the *Central Bureau*,
- b) the *Central Bureau* informs *Veterinary Authorities* of Members

of the confirmation of a *disease outbreak*, according to the provisions of Section 1. of the *Aquatic Code*.

OIE-listed diseases

means *diseases* that are referred to in Chapter 1.3. of the *Aquatic Code*. (Synonym: diseases listed by the OIE.)

Outbreak

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

Pathological material

means tissues, organs, fluids, etc., from *aquatic animals*, or strains of infectious organisms (which could be identified as an isolate or biovar) to be sent to an *aquatic animal disease* laboratory or to a reference laboratory recognised by the OIE, the World Health Organization (WHO), the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the European Union (EU), etc.

Personnel of the Competent Authority

means any competent personnel working within the body of, or designated by, the *Competent Authority*.

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.

Probability sampling

means a sampling strategy in which every unit has a known non-zero probability of inclusion in the sample.

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.

Risk

means the likelihood of the occurrence and the likely magnitude of the biological and economic consequences of an adverse event or effect to animal or human health.

Risk analysis

means the complete process composed of *hazard identification*, *risk assessment*, *risk management* and *risk communication*.

Risk assessment

means the evaluation of the likelihood and the biological and economic consequences of entry, establishment and spread of a *hazard* within the *territory* of an *importing country*.

Risk communication

is the interactive exchange of information and opinions throughout the *risk analysis* process concerning *risk*, *risk*-related factors and *risk* perceptions among *risk assessors*, *risk managers*, *risk communicators*, the general public and other interested parties.

Risk management

means the process of identifying, selecting and implementing measures that can be applied to reduce the level of *risk*.

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*.

Self-declaration of freedom from disease

means declaration by the *Competent Authority* of the country concerned that the country, *zone* or *compartment* is free from a *listed disease* based on implementation of the provisions of the *Aquatic Code* and the *Aquatic Manual*. The country may wish to transmit this information to the OIE *Central Bureau*, which may publish the information.

Sensitivity

means the proportion of true positive tests given in a diagnostic test, i.e. the number of true positive results divided by the number of true positive and false negative results.

Slaughtering

means the killing and bleeding of fish.

Specificity

means the probability that absence of *infection* will be correctly identified by a diagnostic test, i.e. the number of true negative results divided by the number of true negative and false positive results.

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 *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*. *Fallowing* should be for an appropriate period determined by *risk assessment*.

Study population

means the population from which *surveillance* data are derived. This may be the same as the *target population* or a subset of it.

Subpopulation

means a distinct part of a population identifiable according to specific common *aquatic animal* health characteristics.

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 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 *disease 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.

Transit country

means a country through which *aquatic animals*, *aquatic animal products*, *biological products* or *pathological material* destined for an *importing country*, are transported or in which a stopover is made at a *frontier post*.

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.

Vehicle

means any method of transport by land, air or water.

Veterinarian

means a person registered or licensed by the relevant *veterinary statutory body* of a country to practise veterinary medicine/science in that country.

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*.

Veterinary Services

means the Veterinary Administration, all the *Veterinary Authorities*, and all persons authorised, registered or licensed by the *veterinary statutory body*.

Veterinary statutory body

means an autonomous authority regulating *veterinarians* and veterinary para-professionals.

Water catchment

means an area or basin of land bounded by natural features such as hills or mountains, into which all run-off water flows.

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)*.
