

GLOSSARY

For the purposes of the *Aquatic Code*:

ANTIMICROBIAL AGENT

means a naturally occurring, semi-synthetic or synthetic substance that at *in vivo* concentrations exhibits antimicrobial activity (kill or inhibit the growth of microorganisms). Anthelmintics and substances classed as disinfectants or antiseptics are excluded from this definition.

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 amphibians, fish, molluscs or crustaceans for breeding, stocking or sale are raised or kept.

AQUATIC ANIMAL HEALTH PROFESSIONAL

means a person who, for the purposes of the *Aquatic Code*, is authorised by the *Competent Authority* to carry out certain designated tasks in a *territory* and has the appropriate qualifications and training to perform the designated tasks.

AQUATIC ANIMAL HEALTH SERVICES

means the combination of governmental and non-governmental individuals and organisations that perform activities to implement the standards of the *Aquatic Code*.

AQUATIC ANIMAL HEALTH STATUS

means the status of a country, *zone* or *compartment* with respect to a *disease* in accordance with the criteria listed in the relevant disease-specific chapter or Chapter 1.4. of the *Aquatic Code*.

AQUATIC ANIMAL PRODUCTS

means non-viable *aquatic animals*, parts of *aquatic animals*, or manufactured goods containing any material derived from *aquatic animals* that are intended for sale or trade.

AQUATIC ANIMAL WASTE

means entire carcasses of *aquatic animals*, parts of *aquatic animals*, or associated liquids which are intended for disposal.

AQUATIC ANIMALS

means all viable life stages (including *eggs* and *gametes*) of fish, molluscs, crustaceans and amphibians originating from *aquaculture establishments* or from the wild.

AQUATIC CODE

means the WOAHA *Aquatic Animal Health Code*.

AQUATIC MANUAL

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

BASIC BIOSECURITY CONDITIONS

means a minimum set of conditions, as described in Article 1.4.6., required to ensure *biosecurity* for a specific *disease*, in a country, *zone* or *compartment*.

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 *pathogenic agents*;
- e) endocrine tissues from fish or used in fish.

BIOSECURITY

means a set of management and physical measures designed to mitigate the *risk* of introduction of *pathogenic agents* into, or spread within, or release from, *aquatic animal* populations.

BIOSECURITY PLAN

means a document that identifies potential pathways for the introduction of *pathogenic agents* into, or spread within, or release from, a *zone*, *compartment* or *aquaculture establishment* and describes the measures applied to mitigate the identified *risk*, in accordance with the recommendations in the *Aquatic Code*.

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.

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 must be clearly documented by the *Competent Authority(ies)*.

COMPETENT AUTHORITY

means a Governmental Authority of a Member Country having the responsibility in the whole or part of the territory for the implementation of certain standards of 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 *pathogenic agents*.

DISINFECTANTS

means chemical compounds or physical processes capable of destroying *pathogenic agents* or inhibiting their growth in the course of *disinfection*.

DISINFECTION

means the process of cleaning and applying *disinfectants* to inactivate *pathogenic agents* on potentially contaminated items.

EARLY DETECTION SYSTEM

means a system, as described in Article 1.4.7., which ensures the rapid recognition of signs that are suspicious of a *listed disease*, or an *emerging disease*, 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 an investigation by the *Aquatic Animal Health Services* with minimal delay.

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 *disease*, other than *listed diseases*, which has a significant impact on *aquatic animal* or public health resulting from:

- a) a change of known *pathogenic agent* or its spread to a new geographic area or species; or
- b) a newly recognised or suspected *pathogenic agent*.

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).

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 *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 *vectors* 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, as well as live organisms, which is intended to be fed directly to *aquatic animals*.

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 in accordance with 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 in accordance with 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 in accordance with 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 a biological, chemical or physical agent in, or a condition of, an *aquatic animal* or *aquatic animal product* with the potential to cause an adverse effect on *aquatic animal* health or public health.

HEADQUARTERS

means the Permanent Secretariat of the World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH), located at:

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: woah@woah.org
WWW: <http://www.woah.org>

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.

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.

INTERNATIONAL AQUATIC ANIMAL HEALTH CERTIFICATE

means a certificate, issued in conformity with the provisions of Chapter 5.11., describing the *aquatic animal* health and/or public health requirements that should be fulfilled prior to export of *commodity*.

INTERNATIONAL TRADE

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

LISTED DISEASES

means *diseases* that are referred to in Chapter 1.3.

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 *Competent Authority* informs the *Headquarters*,
 - b) the *Headquarters* inform *Competent Authorities* of Member Countries
- of the occurrence of a *disease* in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 1.1.

OUTBREAK

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

PASSIVE SURVEILLANCE

means *aquatic animal* health surveillance typically based on observations of clinical or behavioural signs of *disease*, or an assessment of mortality or production data, which are generated by an *early detection system* or from other information which is available to the *Competent Authority*.

PATHOGENIC AGENT

means an organism that causes or contributes to the development of a *disease*.

PATHOLOGICAL MATERIAL

means samples obtained from live or dead *aquatic animals*, containing or suspected of containing *pathogenic agents*, to be sent to a laboratory.

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.

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.

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

RISK ASSESSMENT

means the scientific evaluation of the likelihood and the biological and economic consequences of entry, establishment and spread of a *hazard*.

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 Member Country 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 Member 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*. [NOTE: The Member Country is encouraged to inform WOAAH of its claimed status and WOAAH may publish the claim but publication does not imply WOAAH endorsement of the claim.]

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.

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 *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*. *Following* 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 in accordance with 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 species of *aquatic animals* that have been demonstrated as susceptible to *infection* with a specific *pathogenic agent*, in accordance with Chapter 1.5.

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.

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.

VECTOR

means any living organism that has been demonstrated to transmit a *pathogenic agent* to *susceptible species*. *Susceptible species* are not considered as *vectors* for a specific *pathogenic agent*.

VEHICLE

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

VETERINARIAN

means a person with appropriate education, 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 a Member Country having the primary responsibility in the whole territory for coordinating the implementation of the standards of the *Aquatic Code* by *Competent Authorities*.

VETERINARY STATUTORY BODY

means an autonomous authority regulating *veterinarians* and veterinary paraprofessionals.

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 an area in one or more countries containing an *aquatic animal* population with a specific *aquatic animal health status* with respect to a *disease*, in which *surveillance* and control measures and *basic biosecurity conditions* are applied. The *zone* should be defined by the *Competent Authority*.

NB: MOST RECENT UPDATE ADOPTED IN 2022.

