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COUNCIL DECISION
of 14 June 1993
on reference laboratories for the monitoring of marine biotoxins

(93/383/EEC)

(OJ L 166, 8.7.1993, p. 31)

Amended by:

		Official Journal		
		No	page	date
►**M1**	Council Decision 1999/312/EC of 29 April 1999	L 120	37	8.5.1999

Amended by:

►**A1**	Act of Accession of Austria, Sweden and Finland	C 241	21	29.8.1994
	(adapted by Council Decision 95/1/EC, Euratom, ECSC)	L 1	1	1.1.1995

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COUNCIL DECISION

of 14 June 1993

on reference laboratories for the monitoring of marine biotoxins

(93/383/EEC)

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Economic Community, and in particular Article 43 thereof,

Having regard to the proposal from the Commission [1],

Having regard to the opinion of the European Parliament [2],

Having regard to the opinion of the Economic and Social Committee [3],

Whereas Council Directive 91/492/EEC of 15 July 1991 laying down the health conditions for the production and the placing on the market of live bivalve molluscs [4] lays down, and in particular in the Annex thereto, various rules regarding biotoxins affecting live bivalve molluscs;

Whereas Council Directive 91/493/EEC of 22 July 1991 laying down the health conditions for the production and placing on the market of fishery products [5], sets out, in particular in Article 5 and Chapter V, point II.B of the Annex thereto, certain rules on marine biotoxins affecting fishery products;

Whereas the monitoring of marine biotoxins is especially important to ensure the placing on the market of live bivalve molluscs and fishery products which comply with the requirements of the said Directives;

Whereas, in order to provide an efficient monitoring system to test for marine biotoxins, a national reference laboratory responsible for coordinating the necessary analyses in each Member State should be designated;

Whereas, to ensure a standardized system throughout the Community, a Community reference laboratory should be designated which will be responsible for coordinating the monitoring of marine biotoxins carried out by each national reference laboratory; whereas the tasks and operating conditions of the Community reference laboratory should be laid down;

Whereas the laboratory of the 'Ministerio de Sanidad y Consumo' in Vigo fulfils all the necessary conditions in order to be designated the Community reference laboratory for marine biotoxins; whereas the officials in charge of the laboratory have undertaken to carry out the tasks laid down in this Decision on the terms set out herein;

Whereas this Community reference laboratory is eligible for Community aid in accordance with Article 28 of Council Decision 90/424/EEC of 26 June 1990 on expenditure in the veterinary field [6],

HAS ADOPTED THIS DECISION:

Article 1

The laboratories listed in the Annex hereto are hereby designated as national reference laboratories for the monitoring of marine biotoxins.

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(1) OJ No C 15, 18. 1. 1993, p. 7.
(2) OJ No C 115, 26. 4. 1993.
(3) OJ No C 129, 10. 5. 1993, p. 7.
(4) OJ No L 268, 24. 9. 1991, p. 1.
(5) OJ No L 268, 24. 9. 1991, p. 15.
(6) OJ No L 224, 18. 8. 1990, p. 19.

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Article 2

1. Each national reference laboratory shall be responsible for the following tasks:

— coordinating the activities of the national laboratories responsible for analyses of marine biotoxins in the relevant Member State,

— assisting the competent authority in the Member State to organize the system for monitoring marine biotoxins,

— organizing comparative tests between the various national laboratories responsible for analysing marine biotoxins,

— ensuring that the information supplied by the Community reference laboratory is disseminated to the competent authority in the relevant Member State and to the national laboratories responsible for analysing marine biotoxins.

2. The national reference laboratories shall collaborate with the Community reference laboratory referred to in Article 3.

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Article 3

The 'Laboratorio de biotoxinas marinas del Area de Sanidad' in Vigo is hereby designated as the Community reference laboratory for the monitoring of marine biotoxins.

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Article 4

The Community reference laboratory shall be responsible for the following tasks:

— supplying information on analytical methods and comparative testing to the national reference laboratories,

— coordinating the application by the national reference laboratories of the methods referred to in the first indent, by organizing comparative testing in particular,

— coordinating the development of new analytical methods and informing the national reference laboratories of progress made in this area,

— organizing training and advanced courses for the staff of the national reference laboratories,

— collaborating with the laboratories responsible for analysing marine biotoxins in third countries,

— providing scientific and technical assistance to the Commission, especially in cases where the results of analyses are contested between Member States,

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— helping the national reference laboratories to implement an appropriate system of quality assurance based on the principles of good laboratory practice (GLP) and the EN 45 000 criteria.

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Article 5

The Community reference laboratory for marine biotoxins shall satisfy the following operating conditions;

— that staff are qualified and have sufficient knowledge of the techniques applied in the analysis of marine biotoxins,

— that the equipment and substances necessary for carrying out the tasks laid down in Article 4 are available,

— that an appropriate administrative structure is in place,

— that the confidential nature of certain subjects, results and reports is observed by staff,

— that the principles of good laboratory practice accepted internationally are followed,

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— that an up-to-date list of the reference substances held by the Community Bureau of References is available, along with an up to date list of the manufacturers and suppliers of these substances.

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Article 5a

The Commission shall amend the Annex to this Decision where necessary following any notification submitted to it by a Member State concerning its national reference laboratory for the monitoring of marine biotoxins.

The Commission shall publish the list of the national reference laboratories and any updates to it in the *Official Journal of the European Communities.*

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Article 6

This Decision is addressed to the Member States.

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ANNEX

Belgium and Luxembourg:

— Ministère des Affaires Sociales, de la Santé Publique et de l'Environnement
Institut Scientifique de la Santé Publique — Louis Pasteur
Section 'Denrées alimentaires'
Département 'Pharmaco-Bromatologie'
Rue Juliette Wytsman 14
B-1050 Bruxelles

Denmark:

— The Danish Veterinary and Food Administration
Institute of Food Research and Nutrition
Mørkhøj Bygade 19
DK-2860 Søborg

Germany:

— Bundesinstitut für gesundheitlichen
Verbraucherschutz und Veterinärmedizin
Postfach 330013
D-14191 Berlin

Greece:

— Ινστιτούτο Υγιεινής Τροφίμων Θεσσαλονίκης
28ης Οκτωβρίου 80
GR-54627 Θεσσαλονίκη

Spain:

— Laboratorio de Biotoxinas Marinas
Area de Sanidad
Estación Marítima s/n
E-36271 Vigo

France:

— Laboratoire central d'hygiène alimentaire
43, rue de Dantzig
F-75015 Paris

Ireland:

— Fisheries Research Center
Abbotstown
IRL-Dublin 15

Italy:

— Centro Ricerche Marine
Viale Vespucci 2
I-47042 Cesenatico (FO)

Netherlands:

— Postbus 1
Rijksinstituut voor Volksgezondheid en Milieuhygiëne (RIVM)
NL-3720 BA Bilthoven

Portugal:

— Laboratório do Instituto Nacional de Investigaçao das Pescas (INIP)
Av. Brasília s/n
P-1400 Lisbon

Finland:

— Tullilaboratorio/Tullaboratoriet
PL/PB 53
FIN-02151 Espoo/Esbo

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Sweden:

— Institutionen för klinisk bakteriologi
Göteborgs universitet
S-41124 Göteborg

United Kingdom:

— Marine Laboratory
P.O. Box 101,
Victoria Road
UK Aberdeen AB11 9DB