II

(Acts whose publication is not obligatory)

COUNCIL

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.

(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.

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.

Article 3

The laboratory of the 'Ministerio de Sanidad y Consumo' in Vigo is hereby designated as the Community reference laboratory for the monitoring of marine biotoxins.

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.

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,

— 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.

Article 6

This Decision is addressed to the Member States.

Done at Luxembourg, 14 June 1993.

For the Council

The President

B. WESTH

ANNEX

Belgium and Luxembourg:

— Institut d'hygiène et d'épidémiologie
Département microbiologie — Service bactériologie
Av. Juliette Vytsman 14-16
1050 Bruxelles — BELGIUM

Denmark:

— Fiskeriministeriet
Fiskerikontrollen
Dronningens Tværgade 21
P.O. Box 9050
DK-1022 Copenaghen K — DENMARK

Germany:

— Bundesgesundheitsamt (BGA)
Thielallee 88-92
D-1000 Berlin 33 — GERMANY

Greece:

— The Institute of Hygiene
Iese Odos 75 Botanicos
11855 Athens — GREECE

Spain:

— Laboratorio del Ministerio de Sanidad y Consumo
Unidad Administrativa de Vigo
Estación marítima s/n
36201 Vigo — SPAIN

France:

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

Ireland:

— Fisheries Research Centre
Abbotstown
Dublin 15 — IRELAND

Italy:

— Consorzio di studi, ricerche ed interventi sulle risorse marine
Viale Vespucci 2
47042 Cesenatico (FO) — ITALY

Netherlands:

— Postbus 1
Rijkinstituut voor Volksgezondheid en Milieuhygiëne (RIVM)
3720 BA Bilthoven — NETHERLANDS

Portugal:

— Laboratório do Instituto Nacional de Investigação das Pescas (INIP)
AV. Brasília s/n
1400 Lisbon — PORTUGAL

United Kingdom:

— Torry Research Station
PO Box 31, 135 Abbey Road
Aberdeen AB9 8DG UK — UNITED KINGDOM