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COMMISSION DECISION

of 15 April 2010

approving national measures for limiting the impact of certain diseases in aquaculture animals and wild aquatic animals in accordance with Article 43 of Council Directive 2006/88/EC

(notified under document C(2010) 1850)

(Text with EEA relevance)

(2010/221/EU)

(OJ L 98, 20.4.2010, p. 7)

Amended by:

		Official Journal		
		No	page	date
►**M1**	Commission Decision 2010/761/EU of 7 December 2010	L 322	47	8.12.2010

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(2010/221/EU)

THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union,

Having regard to Council Directive 2006/88/EC of 24 October 2006 on animal health requirements for aquaculture animals and products thereof, and on the prevention and control of certain diseases in aquatic animals ([1]), and in particular Article 43(2) thereof,

Whereas:

(1) Commission Decision 2004/453/EC of 29 April 2004 implementing Council Directive 91/67/EEC as regards measures against certain diseases in aquaculture animals ([2]) approves the disease-free status of certain Member States or parts thereof as regards spring viraemia of carp (SVC), bacterial kidney disease (BKD), infectious pancreatic necrosis virus (IPN) and infection with *Gyrodactylus salaris* (GS) (approved disease-free areas), and control or eradication programmes of certain Member States (approved control or eradication programmes) as regards SVC, BKD and IPN.

(2) Member States with approved disease-free areas or with approved control or eradication programmes pursuant to Decision 2004/453/EC may require additional guarantees for consignments of live aquaculture fish of susceptible species to the relevant diseases intended for farming, which are to be introduced into those areas. Those additional guarantees consist of the requirement that those consignments must originate from an area with an equivalent health status as the place of destination.

(3) Directive 2006/88/EC repealed and replaced Council Directive 91/67/EEC of 28 January 1991 concerning the animal health conditions governing the placing on the market of aquaculture animals and products ([3]). However, Directive 2006/88/EC provides that Decision 2004/453/EC is to continue to apply for the purpose of Directive 2006/88/EC pending the adoption of the necessary provisions in accordance with that Directive, which are to be adopted not later than three years after its entry into force.

([1]) OJ L 328, 24.11.2006, p. 14.
([2]) OJ L 156, 30.4.2004, p. 5.
([3]) OJ L 46, 19.2.1991, p. 1.

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(4) Article 43 of Directive 2006/88/EC provides that a Member State may take measures to prevent the introduction of, or to control diseases not listed in Part II of Annex IV thereto which constitute a significant risk for the animal health situation of aquaculture animals or wild aquatic animals in that Member State. Those measures are not to exceed the limits of what is appropriate and necessary to prevent the introduction of or control of, such diseases.

(5) The Member States which have been granted the right to require additional guarantees pursuant to Decision 2004/453/EC have provided the Commission with information on the disease situation as regards the diseases for which they have approved disease-free areas or approved control or eradication programmes. They have demonstrated the appropriateness and necessity of continuing requiring national measures in the form of placing on the market, import and transit requirements, in accordance with Article 43 of Directive 2006/88/EC.

(6) Consequently, Member States which were granted the right to require additional guarantees in accordance with Decision 2004/453/EC for the introduction of aquaculture animals of susceptible species into approved disease-free areas or areas with approved control or eradication programmes should be allowed to continue to apply these measures as national measures approved in accordance with Article 43 of Directive 2006/88/EC.

(7) In addition, Finland has provided information to support the finding that it is no longer necessary to regard certain water catchment areas as buffer zones in order to protect the disease-free status regarding SVC and IPN.

(8) In the interests of simplification of Union legislation, the specific placing on the market, import and transit requirements for consignments of aquaculture animals and wild aquatic animals intended for areas with approved national measures, should be included in the provisions and model animal health certificates laid down in Commission Regulation (EC) No 1251/2008 of 12 December 2008 implementing Council Directive 2006/88/EC as regards conditions and certification requirements for the placing on the market and the import into the Community of aquaculture animals and products thereof and laying down a list of vector species ([1]).

(9) The national measures approved by this Decision should only be applied as long as they are appropriate and necessary. Therefore, the Member States should send a yearly report to the Commission on the functioning of the national measures.

(10) Any suspicion of the presence of a relevant disease in areas listed as disease-free in Annex I to this Decision should be investigated and during the investigation movement restrictions should be applied to protect other Member States with approved national measures as regards the same disease. In addition, to facilitate the necessary re-assessment of the approved national measures, any subsequent disease confirmation should be notified to the Commission and to the other Member States.

([1]) OJ L 337, 16.12.2008, p. 41.

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(11) The eradication programmes should lead to an improvement in the disease situation within a reasonable period of time. In the second half of 2011, the disease situation in the areas covered by such programmes should be reassessed and the appropriateness of the national measures re-evaluated. Therefore, this Decision should provide for those measures to apply only until 31 December 2011.

(12) In the interest of clarity of Union legislation, Decision 2004/453/EC should be expressly repealed.

(13) In order to prevent any disruption of trade, consignments of aquaculture animals which are accompanied by an animal health certificate issued in accordance with Annex III to Decision 2004/453/EC should be permitted to be placed on the market until 30 June 2010, subject to certain conditions.

(14) The measures provided for in this Decision are in accordance with the opinion of the Standing Committee on the Food Chain and Animal Health,

HAS ADOPTED THIS DECISION:

Article 1

Subject matter and scope

This Decision approves the national measures of Member States listed in Annexes I and II hereto for limiting the impact of certain diseases in aquaculture animals and wild aquatic animals in accordance with Article 43(2) of Directive 2006/88/EC.

Article 2

Approval of certain national measures for limiting the impact of certain diseases not listed in Part II of Annex IV to Directive 2006/88/EC

1. The Member States and parts thereof listed in the second and fourth column of the table in Annex I shall be regarded as free of the diseases listed in the first column of that table (disease-free areas).

2. The Member States referred to in paragraph 1 may require that the following consignments introduced into a disease-free area comply with the requirements set out in points (a) and (b) with respect to those diseases for which it is regarded as disease-free:

(a) aquaculture animals intended for farming, relaying areas, put and take fisheries, open ornamental facilities and restocking must comply with:

(i) the placing on the market requirements laid down in Article 8a of Regulation (EC) No 1251/2008;

(ii) the import requirements laid down in Article 10 of Regulation (EC) No 1251/2008;

(iii) the transit and storage requirements laid down in Article 16 of Regulation (EC) No 1251/2008;

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(b) ornamental aquatic animals intended for closed ornamental facilities must comply with:

(i) the import requirements laid down in Article 11 of Regulation (EC) No 1251/2008;

(ii) the transit and storage requirements laid down in Article 16 of Regulation (EC) No 1251/2008.

Article 3

Approval of national eradication programmes regarding certain diseases not listed in Part II of Annex IV to Directive 2006/88/EC

1. The eradication programmes adopted by the Member States listed in the second column of the table in Annex II for the diseases listed in the first column of that table, in respect of the areas listed in the fourth column thereof (eradication programmes), are approved.

2. For a period until 31 December 2011, the Member States listed in the table in Annex II may require that consignments of the aquaculture animals referred to in Article 2(2)(a) and (b), introduced into an area subject to an eradication programme comply with the requirements set out in those points with respect to the diseases covered by that eradication programme.

Article 4

Reporting

1. By 30 April each year at the latest, the Member States listed in Annexes I and II shall submit a report to the Commission on the approved national measures referred to in Articles 2 and 3.

2. The report provided for in paragraph 1 shall include at least up-to-date information on:

(a) significant risks for the animal health situation of aquaculture animals or wild aquatic animals posed by the diseases, for which the national measures apply, and the necessity and appropriateness of those measures;

(b) national measures taken to maintain the disease-free status, including any testing that has been carried out; information concerning such testing must be provided using the model form set out in Annex VI to Commission Decision 2009/177/EC ([1]);

(c) the evolution of the eradication programme, including any testing that has been carried out; information concerning such testing must be provided using the model form set out in Annex VI to Decision 2009/177/EC.

([1]) OJ L 63, 7.3.2009, p. 15.

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Article 5

Suspicion and detection of diseases in disease-free areas

1. Where a Member State listed in Annex I hereto suspects the presence of a disease in an area which is listed as a disease-free area for that disease in that Annex, that Member State shall take measures at least equivalent to those laid down in Article 28, Article 29(2), (3) and (4) and Article 30 of Directive 2006/88/EC.

2. Where the epizootic investigation confirms the detection of the disease referred to in paragraph 1, the Member State concerned shall inform the Commission and the other Member States thereof, and of any measures taken to contain and control that disease.

Article 6

Repeal

Decision 2004/453/EC is repealed.

References to the repealed Decision shall be construed as references to this Decision.

Article 7

Transitional provisions

For a transitional period until 31 July 2010, consignments of aquaculture animals accompanied by an animal health certificate in accordance with Annex III to Decision 2004/453/EC may be placed on the market provided that they reach their place of final destination before that date.

Article 8

Applicability

This Decision shall apply from 15 May 2010.

Article 9

Addressees

This Decision is addressed to the Member States.

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ANNEX I

Member States and areas regarded as being free of the diseases listed in the table and approved to take national measures to prevent the introduction of those diseases in accordance with Article 43(2) of Directive 2006/88/EC

Disease	Member State	Code	Geographical demarcation of the area with approved national measures
Spring viraemia of carp (SVC)	Denmark	DK	Whole territory
	Ireland	IE	Whole territory
	Hungary	HU	Whole territory
	Finland	FI	Whole territory
	Sweden	SE	Whole territory
	United Kingdom	UK	The whole territory of the United Kingdom; the territories of Guernsey, Jersey and the Isle of Man
Bacterial kidney disease (BKD)	Ireland	IE	Whole territory
	United Kingdom	UK	The territory of Northern Ireland; the territories of Jersey and the Isle of Man.
Infectious pancreatic necrosis virus (IPN)	Finland	FI	The continental parts of the territory
	Sweden	SE	The continental parts of the territory
	United Kingdom	UK	The territory of the Isle of Man
Infection with *Gyrodactylus salaris (GS)*	Ireland	IE	The whole territory
	Finland	FI	The water catchment areas of the Tenojoki and Näätämönjoki; the water catchment areas of the Paatsjoki, Luttojoki, and Uutuanjoki are considered as buffer zones.
	United Kingdom	UK	The whole territory of the United Kingdom; the territories of Guernsey, Jersey and the Isle of Man

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ANNEX II

Member States and areas with eradication programmes as regards certain diseases in aquaculture animals, and approved to take national measures to control those diseases in accordance with Article 43(2) of Directive 2006/88/EC

Disease	Member State	Code	Geographical demarcation of the area with approved national measures
Bacterial kidney disease (BKD)	Finland	FI	The continental parts of the territory
	Sweden	SE	The continental parts of the territory
	United Kingdom	UK	The territory of Great Britain
Infectious pancreatic necrosis virus (IPN)	Sweden	SE	The coastal parts of the territory