AGRINFO

GUIDANCE

Exporting aquaculture products to the European Union

AN INTRODUCTION TO CURRENT AND UPCOMING EU REGULATIONS

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KEY REQUIREMENTS FOR EXPORTING AQUACULTURE PRODUCTS TO THE EUROPEAN UNION

- Exporting countries must be authorised to export aquaculture products, in particular for food safety requirements and residue control plans for pharmacologically active substances, pesticides, and contaminants
- Aquaculture establishments must be listed for export by the exporting country, and must be included in a list published by the European Commission.
- Revised model certificates must be used.
- **NEW:** Exporting countries must be authorised and listed by the European Commission as having appropriate controls of restrictions on the use of certain antibiotics/antimicrobial medicinal products (from **3 September 2026**).
- Aquaculture products must meet specific labelling requirements, including the scientific name and commercial designation of the species, production method, and area where the product was farmed.

CONTENTS

1. INTRODUCTION

Today the European Union (EU) is the world's biggest importer of fish, seafood, and aquaculture products. In 2014, the EU produced around 46% of the fish it consumed. By 2021 this had dropped to 38%. Fish farming is one of the fastest-growing food production sectors in the world, but production within the EU remains less than 1% of global production. The EU produced only 1.1 million tons of farmed fish in 2022 but consumed approximately 3 million tons of aquaculture products. Almost 2 million tons of this was imported.[1]

The EU's *Vision for Agriculture and Food*[2] highlights that aquaculture and fisheries are strategic food sectors for the EU. The European Green Deal and the Farm to Fork strategy already underlined farmed seafood's potential as a source of protein with a low carbon footprint and set the objective of increasing *organic* aquaculture significantly by 2030.[3]

This guide provides an overview of the main EU requirements that must be met to export aquaculture products to the EU, helping exporters to navigate the regulatory framework. Its scope covers food from farmed finfish (including their roes and caviar) and farmed crustaceans.

Bivalve molluscs and certain other aquatic animals that require compliance with specific animal health requirements will be treated in a separate guide. Live fish exported to the EU are not covered by this guide.

[1] European Parliament, 2024; European Commission, Trade of fisheries and aquaculture products.
[2] COM (2025) 75.
[3] COM (2020) 381, point 2.1. p. 9.

2. WHAT IS AQUACULTURE?

2.1. Aquaculture is “farming in water”

Aquaculture, or fish farming, is the production of fish and other aquatic organisms under controlled conditions in fresh or marine water.[4] Land-based aquaculture systems include ponds, tanks, and raceways. Aquaculture farming includes also sea-based and other open-water systems (predominantly cages).

*The EU views aquaculture from a **farming** perspective as opposed to a “wild” **fishery** perspective. The EU legislation commonly refers to the term “fishery products of aquaculture origin”.*

2.2. Aquaculture vs. wild catch

Most EU legislation applicable to aquaculture is not specific to the sector.[5] EU legislation often applies uniformly to both wild-caught and farmed products. All fishery products for human consumption in the EU must meet the same EU general food safety and hygiene rules. However, aquaculture is carried out under controlled conditions in specific infrastructures (“fish farms”) that often require management of water and waste, and external inputs such as feed.

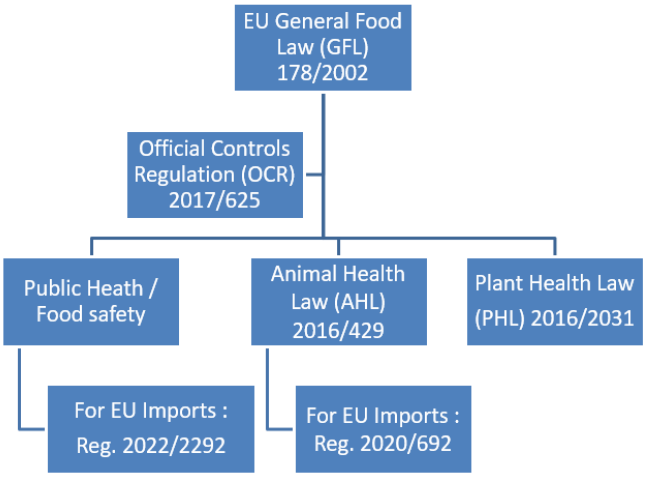
This means that certain requirements for aquaculture products are different from those for wild catch. Countries exporting aquaculture products to the EU must have in place EU-approved residue control plans for pharmacologically active substances, pesticides, and contaminants (Regulation 2022/2292, Art. 6). On the other hand, exporters of fish from wild catches must fulfil requirements related to jurisdiction and preservation of oceans, or rules against illegal, unreported, and unregulated fishing (Regulation 1005/2008). These do not apply to aquaculture products.

[4] The European Commission in its Overview of EU Aquaculture describes aquaculture as "farming finfish, shellfish and aquatic plants in the sea or inland waters”.
[5] European Commission, 2024.

3. THE EU "ONE HEALTH" APPROACH

EU food legislation is based on the "One Health approach"[6] which recognises that the health of humans, domestic and wild animals, plants, and the wider environment (including ecosystems) are closely linked and are interdependent.

The EU's "One Health" approach aims to ensure that food meets the high standards that EU citizens expect. One Health rests on three pillars – public health, animal health, and plant health – and is underpinned by EU General Food Law (Regulation 178/2002). This Regulation sets general principles that apply for all foods and cover the entire value chain. These principles include:



- an integrated food chain approach "from farm to fork"
- decisions based on risk analysis and latest available scientific information/data
- the precautionary principle[7]
- principle of the operator's responsibility (including the obligation to recall unsafe food from the market)
- all activities must be subject to official controls, both put in place and carried out by the competent authorities
- traceability.

Food exported to the EU by non-EU countries must also meet EU standards. The export process starts with the identification and designation of competent authorities in the exporting country. To export animal products, including aquaculture products, the relevant competent authorities must be able to demonstrate that they have a robust and reliable inspection system in place. This system must guarantee that operators from their country who export these products to the EU comply with strict food safety and hygiene rules, including limits on residues and the absence of diseases.

Operators exporting animal products, including aquaculture products, have to demonstrate compliance with EU food regulations to their authorities. They must meet all necessary requirements for export authorisation. In addition, consignments are submitted to official controls at border control posts when arriving in the EU.

[6] European Commission, One Health, Overview.

[7] The precautionary principle is an approach to risk management; if it is possible that a given policy or action might cause harm to the public or the environment, and if there is still no scientific agreement on the issue, the policy or action in question should not be carried out. See Precautionary principle.

4. EXPORTING TO THE EU: KEY REQUIREMENTS

To export aquaculture products:

- **exporting countries** must be authorised and listed by the EU (see section 4.1 of this guide)
- **exporting establishments** must be approved by the competent authority of the exporting country and listed on the EU dedicated webpage (section 4.2)
- products must be accompanied by **official health certificates** (section 4.3).

All the above requirements must be met. If one is missing, a country cannot export to the EU. To be able to export, each country must be in each relevant list of **authorised countries**; AND have submitted a list of **authorised establishments**; AND make use of the relevant **health certificate**. For example, if a country is on the list of authorised countries to export to the EU, it still cannot export if it does not have any establishment authorised and listed on the EU webpage.

These requirements are detailed below.

4.1. Exporting countries must be authorised

The country from which aquaculture products are exported must be authorised and listed by the EU in relation to:

- food safety requirements (see section 4.1.1 of this guide)
- residue control plans for pharmacologically active substances, pesticides, and contaminants (section 4.1.2)
- animal health ONLY for certain specific aquaculture products exported (such as trout, salmon, carp, shrimp) to the EU for further processing (section 4.1.3)
- restrictions on the use of certain antibiotics/antimicrobial medicinal products applicable from 3 September 2026 (section 4.1.4).

The procedure to list countries is explained in section 4.1.5.

4.1.1 Country listing for food safety

Aquaculture products may only be exported from countries whose food safety systems, including legislation and official controls, are recognised as able to ensure compliance with EU requirements.

Operators may only export aquaculture products to the EU from their country if the country has demonstrated that its food safety requirements are at least equivalent to those that apply to EU products (Regulation 2022/2292, Art. 4) in terms of:

- production of products of animal origin
- use of veterinary medicinal products, including rules on their prohibition or authorisation, their distribution, their placing on the market, and rules covering administration and inspection
- preparation and use of feed, including additives and medicated feedstuffs,[8] and hygiene quality of raw materials used for preparing feedstuffs and the final product.

[8] Medicated feed intended for farmed fish often contains substantially higher doses of antimicrobial active substances than medicated feed intended for food-producing animals other than fish.

The list of countries authorised to export aquaculture products to the EU can be found in Regulation 2021/405, Annex IX (for an updated list, click on "Consolidated version" or "Access current version"). The AGRINFO partner countries currently approved are listed in Box 1.

Box 1. AGRINFO partner countries authorised for export of aquaculture products to the EU (Regulation 2021/405, in both Annexes -I and IX)

Albania*	Honduras	Nicaragua**
Argentina*	India	Nigeria**
Armenia*	Indonesia	North Macedonia*
Azerbaijan***	Iran**/***	Panama
Bangladesh	Kenya*	Peru
Belize**	Madagascar	Philippines
Bosnia and Herzegovina*	Malaysia	Serbia*
Brazil	Mauritius*	Sri Lanka
China	Mexico	Thailand
Colombia	Moldova*	Tunisia*
Costa Rica	Montenegro*	Türkiye*
Cuba**	Morocco*	Ukraine*
Ecuador	Mozambique**	Vietnam
Guatemala**	Myanmar	Venezuela**

*finfish and its products **crustaceans ***caviar and roes

Competent authorities in the exporting country must be able to demonstrate that their official controls can verify compliance with EU rules on food safety, including specific hygiene rules for fishery products (Section VIII of Regulation 853/2004).

These controls must cover:[9]

- regular inspections of establishments, including fish auctions and wholesale markets, with respect to:
  - conditions for approval
  - correct handling of fishery products
  - compliance with hygiene and temperature requirements
  - staff hygiene and cleanliness of establishments, including facilities and equipment
- storage and transport conditions
- freshness indicators
- where relevant,[10] compliance with permitted levels of histamine, laid down in Regulation 2073/2005 on microbiological criteria for foodstuffs
- residues and contaminants (maximum residue limits for pharmacologically active substances, absence of prohibited and non-authorised substances, maximum levels for certain contaminants and pesticide residues)
- microbiological checks
- risk-based testing for parasites.

4.1.2 Country listing for residue control plans

Aquaculture products may only be exported from countries that have in place a validated control plan covering residues of pesticides, residues of veterinary drugs, and contaminants.

An operator may only export aquaculture products to the EU if the country in which it is operating has demonstrated to the EU a capacity to control and manage the presence of residues. Countries seeking European Commission approval and listing for residues must submit a residue control plan covering:

- **Veterinary drug residues**: (Annex I, Regulation 2022/1644):
  - pharmacologically active substances expressly prohibited for use in food-producing animals in the EU (e.g. chloramphenicol, nitrofurans, and Malachite Green) or not authorised (Group A); these include steroids (for finfish) and certain substances not authorised for use in feed, such as dyes, certain plant protection products (pesticides) that are sometimes used in animal husbandry, antimicrobial and anti-inflammatory substances, sedatives, and any other pharmacologically active substances (Annex II, Regulation 2022/1644)
  - pharmacologically active substances authorised for use in food-producing animals (Group B).
- **Contaminants**: Regulations 2022/931 and 2022/932.
- **Pesticide maximum residue levels (MRLs)**: the groups of pesticides to be controlled in the residue control plan for aquaculture include organochlorinated compounds, organophosphate compounds, carbamates, and pyrethroids. These substances are commonly used in aquaculture for pest and parasite control. Used as such, their residues can accumulate in fish tissues, posing potential risks to human health. For more details see Official controls of veterinary drug residues in products of animal origin.

[9] Regulation 2017/625 sets the official control principles for all food. Regulation 2019/627 sets specific requirements for products of animal origin, including fish and seafood products (Arts. 67–71 and Annex VI).
[10] Fishery products from fish species associated with a high amount of histidine (generally not aquaculture species).

Residue control plans should be designed according to the risks relevant to the exporting country's regional and national context. A country's control plan sets out the number of samples taken from aquaculture products and tested by its authorities, either based on annual national production figures (previous year), or based only on that part of the national production which is eligible for export to the EU (see Regulation 2022/932 for frequency of sampling). Further details on how to design control plans can be found in the European Commission's Guidelines on EU requirements for entry of animals and products of animal origin. This includes the templates to be completed (for aquaculture, see sheets 21–32; explanations on how to complete the tables are given in sheets a–e).

To remain on the list of authorised countries, competent authorities must send to the European Commission an updated version of the residue control plan **every year, before 31 March**, with the results of the samples analysed the previous year (see procedure to be listed, section 4.1.5 of this guide).

The list of non-EU countries approved to export aquaculture products to the EU can be found in Annex-I of Regulation 2021/405 (for an updated list, click on "Consolidated version" or "Access current version") (see Box 1 of this guide).

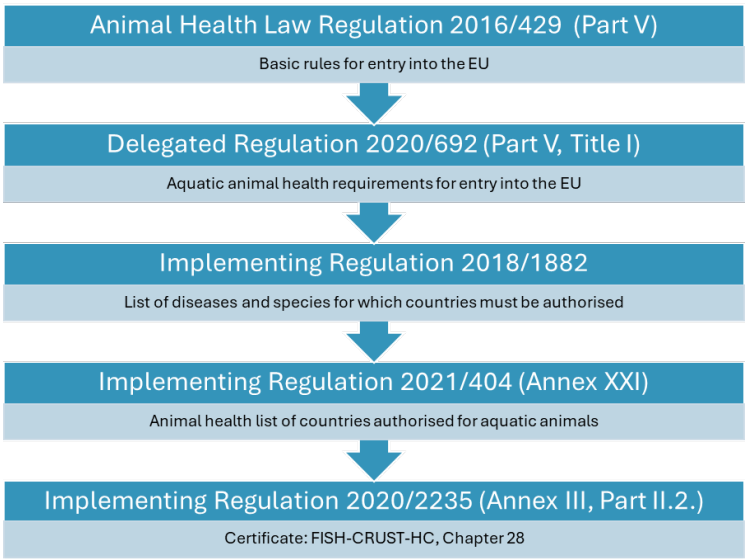
4.1.3 Country listing for animal health requirements

Non-EU countries exporting aquaculture products from species sensitive to certain diseases (such as trout, salmon, carp, shrimp) must be listed in the animal health list, when these species are **exported whole to the EU for further processing**.[11]

Regulation 2018/1882[12] lists species posing a considerable risk for the spread of certain listed diseases (Regulation 2020/692, Annex I.4). Countries must be listed in Regulation 2021/404, Annex XXI, when these species **are exported whole to the EU for further processing**.

[11] Aquatic Animals: Frequently Asked Questions, see section "Entry into the Union of aquatic animals & products".
[12] The listed diseases and susceptible species are:
For finfish (typically susceptible aquaculture species): epizootic haematopoietic necrosis (rainbow trout); viral haemorrhagic septicaemia (salmonids); infectious haematopoietic necrosis (salmonids); highly polymorphic region (HPR)-deleted infectious salmon anaemia virus (Atlantic salmon, brown trout, rainbow trout); koi herpes virus (all varieties, subspecies, and hybrids of common carp).
For crustaceans: Taura syndrome virus (penaeid shrimps: *Metapenaeus*, *Penaeus* spp.); yellow head virus (penaeid shrimps: *Metapenaeus*, *Penaeus* spp.); white spot syndrome virus (all decapod crustaceans).

The list of non-EU countries approved to export under these conditions can be found in Annex XXI, Part 1, Section A of Regulation 2021/404 (for an updated list, click on "Consolidated version" or "Access current version").



The countries approved as of June 2025 are:

- Indonesia, Thailand, Türkiye, and South Africa for all listed species
- Brazil, China, Colombia, Congo, Jamaica, Malaysia, North Macedonia, and Sri Lanka for cyprinids (carp).

Individual EU Member States, when they are free from some diseases or have an eradication programme, may have[13] additional requirements to limit the impact of certain diseases of aquatic animals. [14]

It is not necessary for the country to be listed in Regulation 2021/404, Annex XXI, for exports of:[15]

- products from species not listed in Regulation 2018/1882
- fish slaughtered and eviscerated (gutted) prior to export to the EU intended for further processing in the EU
- crustaceans packaged and labelled for retail trade without further processing
- crustaceans packaged and labelled for human consumption which are no longer able to survive as living animals if returned to the aquatic environment
- crustaceans packaged and labelled for human consumption intended for further processing in the EU without temporary storage at the place of processing.

[13] Decision 2021/260.

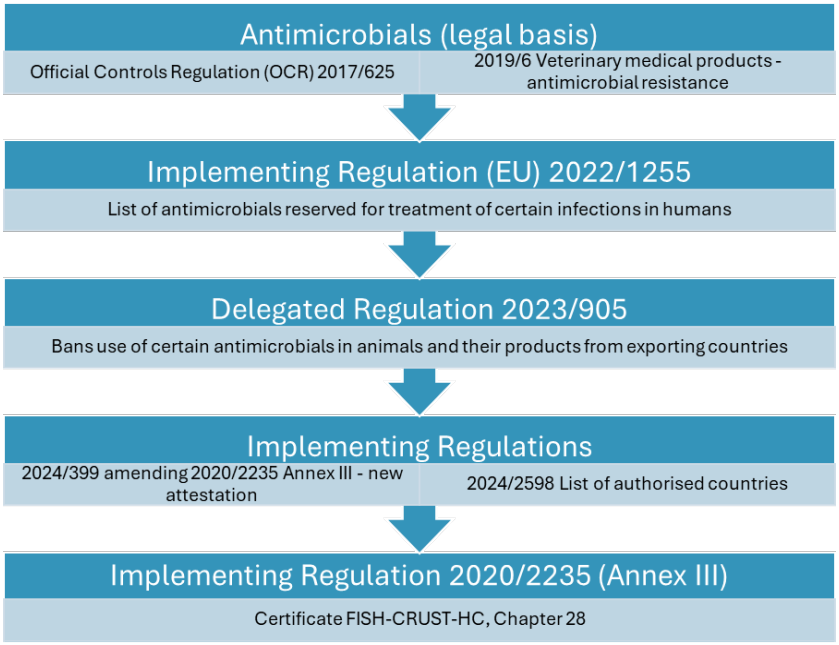
[14] The listed diseases for which some EU Member States may have additional national requirements are koi herpes virus, spring viraemia of carp, bacterial kidney disease (salmonids), infectious pancreatic necrosis (some trout and salmon species); infection with *Gyrodactylus salaris* (some trout and salmon species and any species in contact with those); infection with salmonid alphavirus (Atlantic salmon, rainbow trout, brown trout).

[15] Aquatic Animals: Frequently Asked Questions, see section "Entry into the Union of aquatic animals & products".

4.1.4 NEW: Country listing for management of antimicrobials

From **3 September 2026**, to continue to export to the EU, countries must be authorised and listed in Regulation 2024/2598 in relation to their use and management of certain antimicrobials.

In order to fight against antimicrobial resistance, Regulation 2023/905 restricts the use of certain antimicrobials in live animals and in medicated feed. It bans the use of antimicrobials as growth promoters or to increase yield, and the use of certain antimicrobials reserved for treatment in humans[16] during the **whole life of food-producing animals**. These restrictions apply also to aquaculture species exported to the EU and their products (see Rules on prohibited antimicrobials in imported animal products).



Countries will have to be included in the official list of exporting countries authorised to export such products to the EU by **3 September 2026**. If they have not yet done so, those non-EU countries currently authorised to export aquaculture products to the EU (see Box 1 of this guide) that are not yet listed in Regulation 2024/2598 must submit a written declaration (or complete the procedure) to guarantee their compliance by that date (see List of non-EU countries compliant with new EU antimicrobial requirements).[17]

A first list of countries that have already demonstrated compliance with these rules has been published in the Annex of Commission Implementing Regulation 2024/2598.

The template for the declaration can be requested from SANTE-VETERINARY-MEDICINES@ec.europa.eu.

This new requirement is reflected in the certificate (see section 4.3 of this guide).

[16] See List of antimicrobials reserved for treatment of certain infections in humans.

[17] A written declaration providing those guarantees must be submitted for every type of food-producing animal and their products for which the country is authorised to export to the EU. See Specifications as regards the listing of third countries and the amendments of the official export certificates (European Commission, 2023).

4.1.5 Country listing: The process

Countries wishing to be listed in any of the above lists must proceed as follows (see EU import conditions for seafood and other fishery products, p. 4).

1. To export fishery products to the EU, the exporting country's competent authority must submit a written request to the European Commission's Directorate General for Health and Food Safety (DG SANTE, SANTE-CONSULT-A5@ec.europa.eu; and for the list on antimicrobials, SANTE-VETERINARY-MEDICINES@ec.europa.eu). The request should contain confirmation that the authority can fulfil all relevant legal provisions to satisfy EU requirements.
2. After evaluation of the request, DG SANTE sends a general and/or product-specific questionnaire to the competent authority, which must be completed and returned. The completed questionnaire(s) will provide information on relevant national legislation on animal health and food hygiene, the structure of the competent authorities, etc.
3. To be included in the list of countries with approved control plans (Regulation 2021/405, Annex-I), the exporting country must submit to the European Commission its residue control plan for pharmacologically active substances, pesticides, and contaminants in aquaculture[18]. If the plan is not approved by the European Commission, aquaculture products may not be imported into the EU regardless of that country's compliance with other public health or animal health requirements (Regulation 2022/2292, Art. 6.2., see Public health requirements for exporting live animals, products of animal origin, composite products and sprouted seeds to the EU).
4. Following evaluation of the information provided, the European Commission's Health and Food Audits and Analysis Directorate will carry out an on-the-spot audit.
5. If the outcome of the audit is satisfactory, the competent authority will be requested to submit, and maintain, a **list of establishments** approved by that authority as compliant with EU criteria.
6. If the Member States have a favourable opinion on the proposal, the European Commission will list the exporting country and any specific import conditions that apply, and the amended legislation will be published.

For details see Third country lists for public health – explained.

4.2. Establishments exporting aquaculture products must be listed

Only establishments that are included on the European Commission's **Establishment Lists** in TRACES NT can export aquaculture products to the EU. Establishments are listed by the competent authority of the exporting country, once the establishment has demonstrated that it meets EU requirements.

Once an exporting country is authorised and listed to export aquaculture products (section 3.1 of this guide), competent authorities in those countries must approve the individual businesses (referred to legally as "establishments") that prepare and dispatch aquaculture products to the EU (Regulation 2022/2292, Art. 13) in the TRACES system. Primary producers (fish farmers) and businesses only involved in transport operations **do not** have to be listed (Regulation 2022/2292, Art. 14).

[18] European Commission, Guidelines on EU requirements for entry of animals and products of animal origin.

4.2.1 Listing establishments: Operator obligations

An operator wishing to export aquaculture products to the EU must demonstrate to its competent authorities that they comply with the following.

- **Principles of EU General food law** (Regulation 178/2002), including:
  - food must be safe
  - operators have the primary responsibility and obligation to submit to official controls and collaborate with competent authorities
  - food and feed must be traceable at all stages: every food business operator in the chain must keep records of its immediate supplier/s (one step before) and its immediate customer/s (one step after) (Regulation 931/2011)
  - consumers must be protected against fraud, adulteration, and other misleading practices.
- **Hygiene rules applicable to all food** (Regulation 852/2004), in particular:
  - the establishment must be nationally authorised, and must implement a self-control system based on hazard analysis and critical control point (HACCP)[19] principles (Art. 5)
  - products must be handled, prepared, packed, and stored in a hygienic manner (Annex II)
  - products must meet the general hygiene requirements regarding primary production (Annex I) and other stages of production, processing, and distribution (Annex II).
- **Hygiene rules applying to food of animal origin** (Regulation 853/2004),[20] in particular:
  - Identification mark (ID):[21] food business operators must ensure that products of animal origin have a clear, legible, and indelible identification mark applied before the product leaves the establishment. The ID must indicate the name of the country in which the establishment is located and the approval number of the establishment. The Regulation specifies how the ID must be displayed, which information it must contain, and where, when, and how to apply it on each consignment. For products in containers/large packages for further handling or processing in the EU, the ID can be applied at the external surface of the container or package. For fishery products carried in bulk, an identification mark is not necessary if the accompanying documentation contains the required information. For products packaged for direct supply to the final consumer, it is sufficient to apply the ID to the exterior of that package only.
  - The "date of production" means the date of harvesting in the case of aquaculture products (Annex II, Section IV).
  - Specific hygiene rules and requirements for handling aquaculture products are covered in Regulation 853/2004, Annex III, Section VIII. It includes requirements on water use to clean products, chilling and freezing processes, transport and storage conditions, mechanically separated products, treatments in case of parasites, health standards, wrapping, and packaging[22].
  - Hygiene rules for fresh and unprocessed aquaculture products (whether whole or prepared, see definitions in Annex I, point 3) may differ from those for processed products.
- **Microbiological criteria**, Regulation 2073/2005.

[19] See Commission Notice on the implementation of food safety management systems covering good hygiene practices and procedures based on HACCP principles.
[20] See Updated Commission guidance on Good Hygiene Practices and HACCP for food of animal origin.
[21] Regulation 853/2004, Annex II, Section I, see, in particular, points 1, 5, 6, 7, 11, 12, 13.
[22] For more details, see the section on fishery products in Updated guidance on hygiene requirements for food of animal origin.

This Regulation lays down the food safety criteria for fishery products in relation to *Listeria*, *Salmonella*, and histamine (Annex I, Chapter 1). Process hygiene criteria (specifically relating to *Escherichia coli* and staphylococci in shelled and shucked products of cooked crustaceans) are set in Annex I, Chapter 2.4.

Specific attention should be given to *Listeria* in ready-to-eat food. *Listeria* may specifically affect certain processed fish products with long shelf-life such as smoked fish. The EU has extended the food safety criterion "*Listeria monocytogenes* not detected in 25 g" that the EU currently applies to food at the production stage. **From 1 July 2026** it will apply throughout the **entire shelf-life** of the product. By that date, food business operators must be able to carry out studies to demonstrate to the satisfaction of the competent authority that the product will not exceed the limits throughout its shelf-life, taking into account the storage and processing conditions, the possibilities for contamination, and reasonably foreseeable conditions of distribution, storage, and use (see Regulation 2073/2005, Annex II).

For details see Listeria monocytogenes in ready-to-eat food.

4.2.2 Listing of establishments by competent authorities

Competent authorities in non-EU countries are responsible for approving and listing their exporting establishments.

National competent authorities in each country should designate one or more TRACES National Contact Point/s that can enter and maintain the data on aquaculture businesses in the EU's online platform for certification (Trade Control and Expert System, TRACES). National competent authorities are responsible for auditing the establishments regularly and keeping the list of processing and exporting establishments up-to-date in TRACES (see section 4.3 of this guide.

An Establishment Listing user guide in TRACES-NT gives step-by-step instructions for non-EU countries on how to register new establishments. These lists are publicly available on the European Commission's Establishment Lists directory.

4.3. Official health certificates

The model certificate FISH-CRUST-HC must accompany consignments of aquaculture products entering the EU. It is important to always use the updated template of the certificate. One of the latest important changes applies since **3 September 2024**, see Model health certificates: antimicrobial attestation and EU official health certificates for exports to the EU – explained. To reduce the risk of mistakes, it is recommended to use the TRACES online platform to complete the certificate.

4.3.1 Certificate model FISH-CRUST-HC

Each consignment of aquaculture products exported to the EU must be accompanied by a certificate. For fish and crustaceans, both from aquaculture and wild catch, the model FISH-CRUST-HC applies. When filling in the certificate, the parts only applying to wild catch, or animal health attestations not relevant for the consignment to be exported with that certificate (see section 4.3.2 of this guide), must be crossed out.

This model certificate can be found in Regulation 2020/2235 (Annex III, Chapter 28 – see Latest consolidated version). It is reproduced in Annex II of this guide. See EU official health certificates for exports to the EU – explained.

Model certificates are updated regularly (eg: Regulations 2023/2744; 2024/399; 2025/636).[23] Exporting countries must ensure they use the latest version. It is recommended to complete the certificates in TRACES when possible, as the TRACES system is continuously updated and the necessary actions relating to the attestation will be done automatically.

The 2024 change in the FISH-CRUST-HC certificate model, in use from **3 September 2024** (even though the requirements on antimicrobials only apply from 3 September 2026), is that the certificate needs to **include the following attestation**:

> II.1.a. Attestation as regards Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2023/905 [*Delete when the Union is not the final destination of the fishery products*]
>
> I, the undersigned, declare that I am aware of the relevant requirements of Regulation (EU) 2019/6 of the European Parliament and of the Council and Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2023/905 and hereby certify that the fishery products of aquaculture origin described in Part I were produced in accordance with these requirements, and in particular that the aquacultured animals from which the products have been derived have not been administered antimicrobial medicinal products for growth promotion or yield increase or antimicrobial medicinal products containing an antimicrobial that is included in the list of antimicrobials reserved for the treatment of certain infections in humans laid down in Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2022/1255 as set out in Article 3 of Delegated Regulation (EU) 2023/905 and originate from a third country or region thereof listed in accordance with Article 5(2) of Delegated Regulation (EU) 2023/905.

Between 3 September 2024 and 2 September 2026, this antimicrobial attestation must be crossed out.[24]

4.3.2 Requirements to be certified

By signing the certificate, competent authorities in the non-EU country certify that the aquaculture product exported to the EU is compliant with each Regulation listed in the certificate.

- The public health attestation (Part II.1. in the certificate) covers compliance with the key requirements (see sections 4.1 and 4.2 of this guide).
- After 3 September 2026 the "antimicrobial attestation" (Part II.1.a) will guarantee that prohibited antimicrobials were not used at any stage during the complete life cycle of the fish and crustaceans cultured to be exported to the EU. Competent authorities of exporting countries will have to put in place a system that can guarantee this, either by legislation mirroring the EU ban, or by channelling the aquaculture production intended to be exported to the EU through a segregated (split) system.
- Part II.2. in the certificate, the animal health attestation, needs only to be filled in when species susceptible to certain diseases[25] are exported whole for further processing in the EU (Regulation 2018/1882 – see section 4.1.3).

[23] Updated model animal health/official certificates for food of animal origin

[24] DG SANTE (2024) State of play concerning the implementation of Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2023/905. Presentation, 6 March.

[25] Aquatic Animals: Frequently Asked Questions, see section "Entry into the Union of aquatic animals & products" > "Under what circumstances may Parts II.2.3.1, II.2.3.2. and II.2.4. of Part II.2. of the model certificates FISH-CRUST-HC and MOL-HC be deleted?"

Clarification notes at the end of the certificate explain how to fill in the various boxes. It is advised to read the relevant notes carefully before filling in the boxes. In particular, the derogations (exemptions) from the attestations of Part II.2.3.1 (list of countries in Regulation 2021/404 – see section 4.1.3), Part II.2.3.2 (clinical inspection carried out prior to loading), and Part II.2.4 (specific health requirements).[26]

To be able to sign the certificates, competent authorities of non-EU countries must **regularly audit the operators** to check if production is compliant with the Regulations mentioned in the certificate.

[26] To check when the derogations apply, see Aquatic Animals: Frequently Asked Questions, section "Entry into the Union of aquatic animals & products" > "Under what circumstances may Parts II.2.3.1, II.2.3.2. and II.2.4. of Part II.2. of the model certificates FISH-CRUST-HC and MOL-HC be deleted?"

5. LABELLING

Aquaculture products must meet specific labelling requirements, including the scientific name and commercial designation of the species, production method, and area where the product was farmed. Aquaculture products must also comply with general principles and labelling rules on food information to consumers. See A pocket guide to the EU's new fish and aquaculture consumer labels.

Regulation 1379/2013 sets specific labelling rules for fishery and aquaculture products. The following information **must** appear on the labels (scope and detailed provisions covered in Arts. 35 and 38):

- scientific name and commercial designation of the species: these can be found on the European Commission webpage Commercial designations of fishery and aquaculture products
- production method, indicating whether farmed or wild-caught, in marine or fresh waters
- area where the product was farmed or caught – for aquaculture products, the "production area" is where the product reached more than half of its final weight, or where more than half of the rearing period took place
- date of minimum durability, where appropriate
- whether the product has been defrosted.[27]

In addition to the specific rules, aquaculture products must comply with the general principles and labelling rules set out in Regulation 1169/2011 on Food Information to Consumers.

For more information on consumer information and labelling, see A pocket guide to the EU's new fish and aquaculture consumer labels.

[27] There is an exception (derogation) for foods where freezing is a technologically necessary step in the production process; fishery and aquaculture products previously frozen for health safety purposes, in accordance with Annex III, Section VIII, of Regulation 853/2004; fishery and aquaculture products that have been defrosted before the process of smoking, salting, cooking, pickling, drying, or a combination of any of those processes (Regulation 1379/2013, Art. 35.1).

6. FOOD AND FEED SAFETY CONSIDERATIONS FOR OPERATORS

Operators must comply with strict limits for specific contaminants, veterinary medicines, and other pharmacologically active substances that can accumulate in fish tissues, such as pesticides that are sometimes used in aquaculture for pest and parasite control. Only feed additives that have been authorised in the EU specifically for fish should be used in feed for aquatic animals cultured for export to the EU.

In addition to food hygiene rules (Regulations 852/2004 and 853/2004, see section 4.2.1 in this guide), which operators must comply with in order to be listed, they must also ensure that aquaculture products comply with EU requirements in the following areas.

6.1. Contaminants

Contaminants are substances that have not been intentionally added to food. These substances may contaminate the food at various stages of its production, packaging, transport, or holding. They also might result from environmental contamination. Since contamination may have a negative impact on the quality of food and may imply a risk to human health, the EU has taken measures to minimise contaminants in foodstuffs.

Regulation 2023/915 sets strict limits for specific contaminants, which may be relevant to aquaculture, including heavy metals (mercury, cadmium, lead, arsenic), dioxins and polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs), and per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS). These limits apply to both EU-produced and imported aquaculture products. Maximum levels for certain contaminants in fish (whole fish and muscle meat) and crustaceans (muscle meat) can be found in Annex I to Regulation 2023/915.

Controls of contaminants must be done by competent authorities of the exporting country in the framework of its annual control plan (see section 4.1.2 of this guide).

6.2. Veterinary medicine residues

Veterinary medicines used in aquaculture can sometimes leave residues which can be detected in animal products. Exporters of aquaculture products must respect drug withdrawal periods and ensure that MRLs are not exceeded. A list of pharmacologically active substances that may be used and, when applicable, their MRLs can be found in Regulation 37/2010. The updated list can be accessed by clicking on the “current consolidated version”.

The EU can reject products at its border or recall them from the market when it detects unauthorised substances. This has frequently occurred with aquaculture products that contained, for example, remnants of malachite green and nitrofurans.

Controls of residues of pharmacologically active substances must be performed by competent authorities of the exporting countries in the frame of its annual control plan (section 4.1.2 of this guide).

6.3. Pesticide residues

Pesticides such as organochlorines (DDT, lindane), organophosphates (chlorpyrifos, malathion), carbamates (carbaryl, aldicarb), and pyrethroids (cypermethrin, deltamethrin), when used in aquaculture for pest and parasite control, can accumulate in fish tissues. Therefore they are also considered pharmacologically active substances, posing potential risks to human health. Many of these pesticides are now banned or restricted in the EU because of concerns about their persistence in the environment, bio-accumulation in aquatic organisms, and toxicity to non-target species.

Controls of pesticide residues must be performed by competent authorities of the exporting countries in the frame of its annual control plan (section 4.1.2).

6.4. Feed additives

Feed additives can potentially leave residues in food. Only feed additives that have been authorised in the EU should be used in feed for aquatic animals cultured for export to the EU. The European Commission's online Feed Additives Register provides a list of additives that have been authorised for use following scientific evaluation of their safety for humans, animals, and the environment.

6.5. Food additives and food flavourings

Any food additives or food flavourings used in aquaculture products should meet the latest EU standards. Regulations 1333/2008 (food additives) and 1334/2008 (food flavourings) provide lists of the categories of food products, including fish and seafood, in which food additives/flavourings may be used. Only those additives/flavourings specifically listed for fish may be used following the specified conditions described, including the maximum amounts that may be used. Examples include E 220–228 (sulphur dioxide, sulphites) on fresh, frozen, and deep-frozen crustaceans; and E 315 and E 316 (erythorbic acid and sodium erythorbate) only on frozen and deep-frozen fish with red skin.

Operators can check whether food additives/flavourings are permitted using the following European Commission online tools:

- Food Additives Database
- Food Flavourings Database.

6.6. Smoke flavourings

Before 2024, 10 smoke flavourings were authorised for use in foods. These authorisations expired on 1 January 2024. However, eight of these 10 smoke flavourings may still be used **until 1 July 2029** in foods that are traditionally smoked, such as processed fish and fish roe.

For details see Smoke flavourings: no reauthorisation of 10 primary products.

7. ADDITIONAL POINTS FOR ATTENTION

7.1. Be ready for audits/remote assessments

The European Commission conducts regular controls (audits and remote assessments) of both EU Member States and non-EU countries to ensure the highest standards of food safety and regulatory compliance of goods placed on the EU market (see EU Health and food audits and analysis programme 2025).

All residue control plans of non-EU countries must be checked at least once every 5 years.

Remote assessments, also called "desk-based audits", are based on comprehensive questionnaires. Exporting countries are required to provide comprehensive responses to these questionnaires. This involves documenting all procedures, controls, and corrective actions that are taken to align with EU requirements.

A negative outcome of an audit or remote assessment performed by the European Commission in a non-EU country may result in the imposition of trade-restrictive measures. Examples of such measures include increased checks at EU borders and, as a last resort, suspension of imports.

7.2. Stay up-to-date

7.2.1 Evolution of EU requirements

EU requirements are evolving regularly. AGRINFO provides a single, intuitive portal bringing together and building on existing resources. It highlights drafts in consultation (both on the EU's "Have your say" website and World Trade Organization notifications), and provides Quarterly reports on upcoming EU regulatory changes and opportunities for feedback. Expected upcoming changes include:

- maximum levels for pesticides and contaminants
- Animal Health Law (under evaluation)
- animal welfare (aquaculture: farming and transport of live fish)
- due diligence.

To keep up-to-date on upcoming changes, subscribe to AGRINFO updates. In case of any questions, ASK AGRINFO.

7.2.2 EU Border Controls and the Rapid Alert System for Food and Feed (RASFF)

AGRINFO provides monthly updates on interceptions of non-compliant consignments of agri-food products at EU Border Control Posts. Border rejections of fishery and aquaculture products exported to the EU have occurred more than 80 times in 2024 alone.

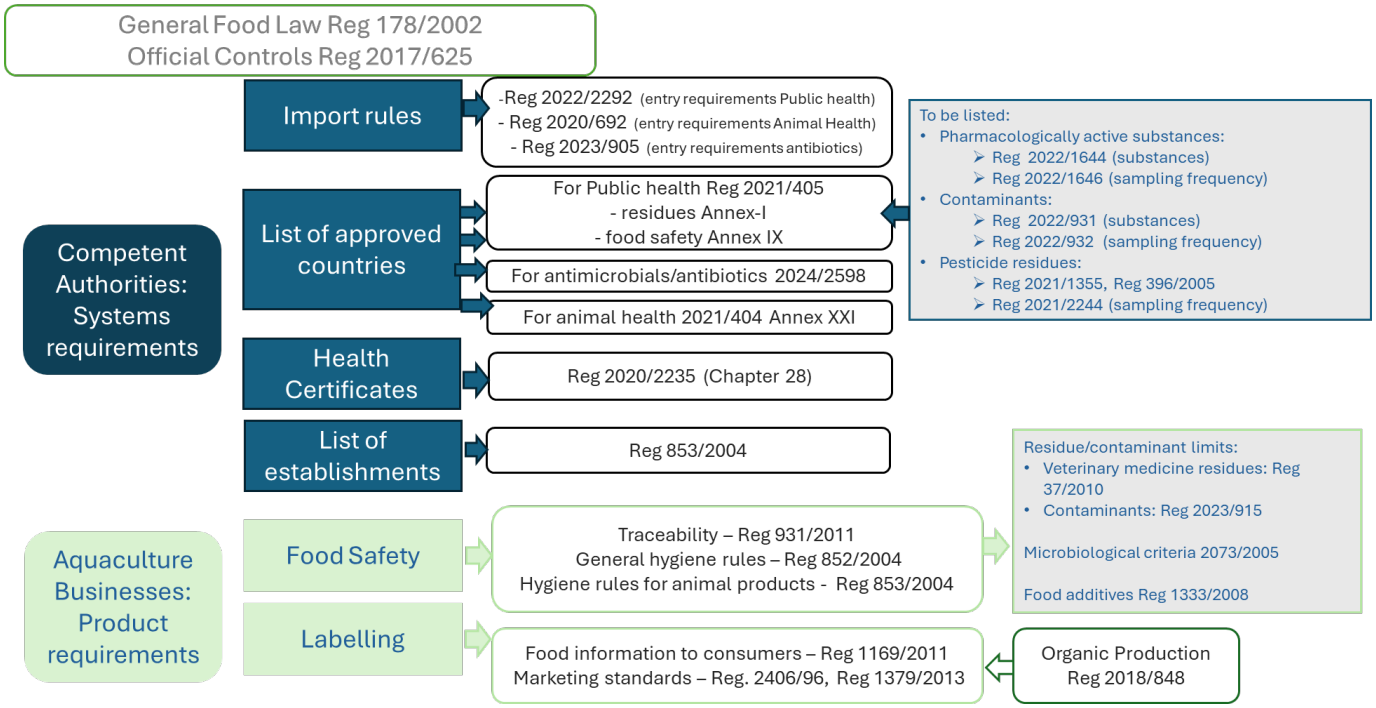
Rejections of aquaculture products destined for EU markets commonly concern the presence of residues of veterinary medicines such as Leucomalachite Green and nitrofuran, which are prohibited substances in the EU. Exceedances of maximum levels of certain contaminants, such as perfluoroalkyl substances and food additives, also commonly result in rejections of fishery and aquaculture products at EU borders.

Non-compliances that represent a serious food safety risk are notified via the EU's Rapid Alert System for Food and Feed (RASFF). This alert system is used by all EU Member States to share information on when such a food or feed is identified at EU Border Control Posts or on the EU market, and when rapid action is required. Food and feed consignments that have been tested and rejected at the external borders of the EU when a health risk has been found are also notified through this system. For shrimp from aquaculture, in particular, recent notifications have included the presence of pathogenic microorganisms such as *Vibrio*, and food additives such as sulphites exceeding the maximum limit or not mentioned as an allergen on the label.

To keep up-to-date on interceptions at EU Border Control Posts, see EU reports on non-compliance.

ANNEXES

Annex I – Overview of significant EU legislation for export of aquaculture products to the EU



Annex II – Certificates

Regulation 2020/2235 (Annex III, Chapter 28): Model animal health/official certificate for the entry into the Union of live fish, live crustaceans and products of animal origin from those animals intended for human consumption (FISH-CRUST-HC). This model does not include the changes in Regulation 2025/636 (the consolidated version is not yet available).

COUNTRY			**Animal health/official certificate to the EU**		
Part I: Description of consignment	**I.1**	**Consignor/Exporter** Name Address Country ISO country code	**I.2**	**Certificate reference**	**I.2a** **IMSOC reference**
			I.3	**Central Competent Authority**	**QR CODE**
			I.4	**Local Competent Authority**	
	I.5	**Consignee/Importer** Name Address Country ISO country code	**I.6**	**Operator responsible for the consignment** Name Address Country ISO country code	
	I.7	**Country of origin** ISO country code	**I.9**	**Country of destination** ISO country code	
	I.8	**Region of origin** Code	**I.10**	**Region of destination** Code	
	I.11	**Place of dispatch** Name Registration/Approval No Address Country ISO country code	**I.12**	**Place of destination** Name Registration/Approval No Address Country ISO country code	
	I.13	**Place of loading**	**I.14**	**Date and time of departure**	
	I.15	**Means of transport** ☐ Aircraft ☐ Vessel ☐ Railway ☐ Road vehicle Identification	**I.16**	**Entry Border Control Post**	
			I.17	**Accompanying documents** Type Code Country ISO country code Commercial document reference	
	I.18	**Transport conditions** ☐ Ambient	☐ Chilled	☐ Frozen	
	I.19	**Container number/Seal number** Container No Seal No			
	I.20	**Certified as or for** ☐ Products for human consumption ☐ Canning industry ☐ Further processing ☐ Live aquatic animals for human consumption			
	I.21	☐ **For transit** Third country ISO country code	**I.22**	☐ **For internal market**	
			I.23		
	I.24	**Total number of packages**	**I.25**	**Total quantity**	**I.26** **Total net weight/gross weight (kg)**
	I.27	**Description of consignment**			
	CN code	Species Cold store Type of packaging Net weight Treatment type Nature of commodity Number of packages Batch No ☐ Final consumer Date of collection/production Manufacturing plant			

Part II: Certification

II. Health information

II.a Certificate reference	II.b IMSOC reference

(1) **[II.1. Public health attestation** (*Deleted when the Union is not the final destination of the live fish, live crustaceans or products of animal origin from those animals*)

I, the undersigned, declare that I am aware of the relevant requirements of Regulation (EC) No 178/2002 of the European Parliament and of the Council, Regulation (EC) No 852/2004 of the European Parliament and of the Council, Regulation (EC) No 853/2004 of the European Parliament and of the Council and Regulation (EU) 2017/625 of the European Parliament and of the Council and hereby certify that the fishery products (2) described in Part I were produced in accordance with these requirements, in particular that they:

(a) have been obtained in the third countries or regions thereof which, at the date of issue of this animal health/official certificate is/are authorised for the entry into the Union of fishery products and listed in Annex IX to Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2021/405;

(b) come from establishments applying general hygiene requirements and implementing a programme based on the hazard analysis and critical control points (HACCP) principles in accordance with Article 5 of Regulation (EC) No 852/2004, regularly audited by the competent authorities, and listed as Union approved establishments;

(c) have been caught and handled on board vessels, landed, handled and where appropriate prepared, processed, frozen and thawed hygienically in compliance with the requirements laid down in Section VIII, Chapters I to IV, of Annex III to Regulation (EC) No 853/2004;

(d) have not been stored in holds, tanks or containers used for other purposes than the production or storage, or both of fishery products;

(e) satisfy the health standards laid down in Section VIII, Chapter V, of Annex III to Regulation (EC) No 853/2004 and the criteria laid down in Commission Regulation (EC) No 2073/2005;

(f) have been packaged, stored and transported in compliance with Section VIII, Chapters VI to VIII, of Annex III to Regulation (EC) No 853/2004;

(g) have been marked in accordance with Section I of Annex II to Regulation (EC) No 853/2004;

(h) have satisfactorily undergone the official controls laid down in Articles 67 to 71 of Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2019/627;

(5) *either* [(i) fulfil the guarantees covering aquaculture provided by the control plan submitted in accordance with Article 6(2) of Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2022/2292 and the third country or region thereof of their origin is listed in Annex -I to Implementing Regulation (EU) 2021/405 and marked with an "X" for the category "aquaculture".]]

(5) *and/or* [(i) are from wild catch and fulfil the guarantees covering such products provided by the monitoring arrangements in place to control compliance with the Union legislation on contaminants in accordance with Commission Regulation (EU) 2023/915 on maximum levels for certain contaminants in food and on pesticide residues and in accordance with Regulation (EC) No 396/2005 of the European Parliament and of the Council on maximum residue levels of pesticides in or on food and feed of plant and animal origin.]]

(5) (16) **[II.1a. Attestation as regards Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2023/905** (*Delete when the Union is not the final destination of the fishery products*)

I, the undersigned, declare that I am aware of the relevant requirements of Regulation (EU) 2019/6 of the European Parliament and of the Council and Delegated Regulation (EU) 2023/905 and hereby certify that the fishery products of aquaculture origin described in Part I were produced in accordance with these requirements, and in particular, that the aquaculture animals from which the products have been derived have not been administered antimicrobial medicinal products for growth promotion or yield increase or antimicrobial medicinal products containing an antimicrobial that is included in the list of antimicrobials reserved for the treatment of certain infections in humans laid down in Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2022/1255 as set out in Article 3 of Delegated Regulation (EU) 2023/905 and originate from a third country or region thereof listed in the Annex to Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2024/2598.]

(3) **[II.2. Animal health attestation for live fish and live crustaceans of listed (4) species intended for human consumption and products of animal origin from those aquatic animals intended for further processing in the Union before human consumption, excluding live fish and live crustaceans and their products landed from fishing vessels**

II.2.1. According to official information, the [aquatic animals described in Part I] (5) [products of animal origin from aquatic animals other than live aquatic animals described in Part I, have been obtained from animals which] (5) meet the following animal health requirements:

II.2.1.1. They originate from [an establishment] (5) [a habitat] (5) which is not subject to national restriction measures for animal health reasons or because of the occurrence of abnormal

mortalities with an undetermined cause, including the relevant listed diseases referred to in Annex I to Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2020/692 and emerging diseases;

II.2.1.2. The [aquatic animals are not intended to be killed] (5) [products of animal origin from aquatic animals other than live aquatic animals, have been obtained from animals which were not intended to be killed] (5) under a national programme for the eradication of diseases, including the listed diseases referred to in Annex I to Delegated Regulation (EU) 2020/692 relevant for the species and emerging diseases.

(5) [II.2.2. The [aquaculture animals described in Part I] (5) [products of animal origin from aquaculture animals other than live aquaculture animals described in Part I, have been obtained from animals which] (5) meet the following requirements:

II.2.2.1. They come from an aquaculture establishment which is [registered] (5) [approved] (5) by, and under the control of, the competent authority of the third country or territory of origin and which has a system in place to maintain and to keep for at least 3 years, up-to-date records containing information regarding:

(a) the species, categories and number of aquaculture animals in the establishment;

(b) movements of aquatic animals into, and aquaculture animals out of, the establishment;

(c) mortality in the establishment.

II.2.2.2. They come from an aquaculture establishment which receives regular animal health visits from a veterinarian for the purpose of the detection of, and information on, signs indicative of the occurrence of diseases, including the listed diseases referred to in Annex I to Delegated Regulation (EU) 2020/692 relevant for the species and emerging diseases, at a frequency that is proportionate to the risk posed by the establishment.]

II.2.3. General animal health requirements

The [aquatic animals described in Part I] (5) [products of animal origin from aquatic animals other than live aquatic animals described in Part I, have been obtained from animals which] (5) meet the following animal health requirements:

(5) (9) *either* [II.2.3.1. They are subject to the requirements referred to in point II.2.4 and originate from a [country] (5) [territory] (5) [zone] (5) [compartment] (5) with code _____ (6) which, at the date of issue of this animal health/official certificate, is listed in Part 1 of Annex XXI to Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2021/404 for the entry into the Union of [aquatic animals] (5) [products of animal origin from aquatic animals other than live aquatic animals] (5);]

(5) (7) *or* [II.2.3.1. They are subject to the requirements referred to in point II.2.4 and originate from a [country] (5) [territory] (5) [zone] (5) [compartment] (5) with code ____ (8) which, at the date of issue of this animal health/official certificate, is listed in Part 1 of Annex XXII to Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2021/404 for the transit though the Union of [aquatic animals] (5) [products of animal origin from aquatic animals other than live aquatic animals] (5) intended for a destination outside the Union;]

(5) (9) [II.2.3.2. They are aquatic animals which have undergone clinical inspection in accordance with Article 166 of Delegated Regulation (EU) 2020/692 within a period of 72 hours prior to the time of loading. During the inspection, the animals showed no signs of transmissible disease and, according to the relevant records of the establishment, there was no indication of disease problems;]

(14) II.2.3.3. They are aquatic animals which are dispatched to the Union directly from the place of origin;

II.2.3.4. They have not been in contact with aquatic animals of a lower health status.

(5) (9) *either* [**II.2.4. Specific health requirements**

(5) [**II.2.4.1 Requirements for listed (4) species for epizootic haematopoietic necrosis, infection with Taura syndrome virus, infection with yellow head virus**

The [aquatic animals described in Part I] (5) [products of animal origin from aquatic animals other than live aquatic animals described in Part I have been obtained from animals which] (5) originate from a [country] (5) [territory] (5) [zone] (5) [compartment] (5) declared free from [epizootic haematopoietic necrosis] (5) [infection with Taura syndrome virus] (5) [infection with yellow head virus] (5) in accordance with conditions which are at least as stringent as those laid down in Article 66 or in Article 73(1) and Article 73(2), point (a), of Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2020/689 and in the case of aquatic animals, all listed (4) species

for the relevant disease(s):

(a) are introduced from another country or territory, or zone or compartment thereof which has been declared free from the same disease(s);

(b) are not vaccinated against [that] [5] [those] [5] disease(s).]

[5] [10] **[II.2.4.2. Requirements for listed [4] species for viral haemorrhagic septicaemia (VHS), infectious haematopoietic necrosis (IHN), infection with HPR-deleted infectious salmon anaemia virus (ISAV) or infection with White spot syndrome virus**

The [aquatic animals described in Part I] [5] [products of animal origin from aquatic animals other than live aquatic animals described in Part I, have been obtained from animals which] [5] originate from a [country] [5] [territory] [5] [zone] [5] [compartment] [5] declared free from [VHS] [5] [IHN] [5] [ISAV] [5] [infection with White spot syndrome virus] [5] in accordance with Part II, Chapter 4, of Delegated Regulation (EU) 2020/689 and in the case of aquatic animals, all listed [4] species for the relevant disease(s):

(a) are introduced from another country or territory, or zone or compartment thereof which has been declared free from the same disease(s);

(b) are not vaccinated against [that] [5] [those] [5] disease(s).]

[5] [11] **[II.2.4.3. Requirements for species [12] susceptible to infection with spring viraemia of carp (SVC), bacterial kidney disease (BKD), infection with infectious pancreatic necrosis virus (IPN), infection with Gyrodactylus salaris (GS), infection with salmonid alphavirus (SAV) and species [4] susceptible to Koi herpes virus disease (KHV)**

The [aquatic animals described in Part I] [5] [products of animal origin from aquatic animals other than live aquatic animals described in Part I have been obtained from animals which] [5] originate from a [country] [5] [territory] [5] [zone] [5] [compartment] [5] which fulfils the health guarantees as regards [SVC,] [5] [BKD,] [5] [IPN,] [5] [GS,] [5] [SAV,] [5] [KHV,] [5] which are necessary to comply with the national measures which apply in the Member State of destination in accordance with Article 175 of Delegated Regulation (EU) 2020/692, and for which the Member State or part thereof, is listed in [Annex I] [5] [Annex II] [5] to Commission Implementing Decision (EU) 2021/260.]]

[5] [9] ***or*** **[II.2.4. Specific health requirements**

The [aquatic animals described in Part I] [5] [products of animal origin from aquatic animals other than live aquatic animals described in Part I have been obtained from animals which] [5] are destined for a disease control aquatic food establishment within the Union which is approved in accordance with Article 11 of Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2020/691, where they are to be processed for human consumption.]

II.2.5. To the best of my knowledge, and as declared by the operator, the [aquatic animals described in Part I] [5] [products of animal origin from aquatic animals other than live aquatic animals described in Part I have been obtained from animals which] [5] originate from [an establishment] [5] [a habitat] [5] where:

(a) there were no abnormal mortalities with an undetermined cause; and

(b) they have not been in contact with aquatic animals of listed [4] species which did not comply with the requirements referred to in point II.2.1.

II.2.6. Transport requirements

Arrangements have been made to transport the aquatic animals described in Part I in accordance with the requirements set out in Articles 167 and 168 of Delegated Regulation (EU) 2020/692 and specifically that:

II.2.6.1. when the aquatic animals are transported in water, the water in which they are transported is not changed in a third country or territory, or zone or compartment thereof which is not listed for entry into the Union of the particular species and category of aquatic animals;

II.2.6.2. the aquatic animals are not transported under conditions that jeopardise their health status, in particular:

(a) when the aquatic animals are transported in water, it does not alter their health status;

(b) the means of transport and the containers are constructed in such a way that the health status of the aquatic animals is not jeopardised during transportation;

(c) the [container] [5] [well-boat] [5] is [previously unused] [5] [cleaned and disinfected in accordance with a protocol and with products approved by the competent authority of the third country or territory of origin] [5], prior to the time of loading for dispatch to the Union;

II.2.6.3. from the time of loading at the place of origin until the time of arrival in the Union, the

animals in the consignment are not transported in the same water or [container] (5) [well-boat] (5) together with aquatic animals which are of a lower health status or which are not intended for the entry into the Union;

II.2.6.4. where a water exchange is necessary in a [country] (5) [territory] (5) [zone] (5) [compartment] (5) which is listed for entry into the Union of the particular species and category of aquatic animals, it only occurs [in the case of transport on land, at water exchange points approved by the competent authority of the third country or territory where the water exchange takes place] (5) [in the case of transport by well-boat, at a distance which is at least 10 km from any aquaculture establishments which are located *enroute* from the place of origin to the place of destination in the Union] (5).

II.2.7. Labelling requirements

II.2.7.1. Arrangements have been made to identify and label the [means of transport] (5) [containers] (5) in accordance with Article 169 of Delegated Regulation (EU) 2020/692 and specifically that the consignment is identified by [a legible and visible label on the exterior of the container] (5) [an entry in the ship's manifest when transported by well-boat] (5), which clearly links the consignment to this animal health/official certificate;

(4) [II.2.7.2. In the case of aquatic animals, the legible and visible label referred to in point II.2.7.1 contains at least the following information:

(a) the number of containers in the consignment;

(b) the name of the species present in each container;

(c) the number of aquatic animals in each container for each of the species present;

(d) a statement saying: ["live fish intended for human consumption in the Union"] (5) ["live crustaceans intended for human consumption in the Union"] (5).]

(5) [II.2.7.3. In the case of products of animal origin from aquatic animals other than live aquatic animals, the legible and visible label referred to in point II.2.7.1 contains one of the following statements:

(a) "products of animal origin from fish, other than live fish, intended for further processing in the Union";

(b) "products of animal origin from crustaceans, other than live crustaceans, intended for further processing in the Union".]

(5) (13) **II.2.8. Validity of animal health/official certificate**

This animal health/official certificate is valid for 10 days from the date of issue. In the case of transport by waterway/sea of aquatic animals, this period of 10 days may be extended by the duration of the journey by waterway/sea.]

Notes

In accordance with the Agreement on the withdrawal of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland from the European Union and the European Atomic Energy Community, and in particular Article 5(4) of the Windsor Framework (see Joint Declaration No 1/2023 of the Union and the United Kingdom in the Joint Committee established by the Agreement on the withdrawal of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland from the European Union and the European Atomic Energy Community of 24 March 2023, OJ L 102, 17.4.2023, p. 87) in conjunction with Annex 2 to that Framework, references to the Union in this animal health/official certificate include the United Kingdom in respect of Northern Ireland.

This animal health/official certificate is intended for the entry into the Union of live fish, live crustaceans and products of animal origin from those animals, including when the Union is not the final destination of such live aquatic animals and their products.

"Aquatic animals" are animals as defined in Article 4, point (3), of Regulation (EU) 2016/429 of the European Parliament and of the Council.

"Aquaculture animals" are aquatic animals which are subject to aquaculture as defined in Article 4, point (7), of Regulation (EU) 2016/429.

"Further processing" means any type of measures and techniques, carried out before the placing on the market for human consumption, affecting anatomical wholeness, such as bleeding, evisceration, heading, slicing and filleting which produce waste or by-products which could cause a risk of disease spread.

All aquatic animals and products of animal origin from aquatic animals other than live aquatic animals, to which point II.2.4 of this animal health/official certificate applies, shall originate from a third country or territory, or zone, or compartment thereof which appears in column 2 of the table in Part 1 of Annex XXI to Implementing Regulation (EU) 2021/404.

Point II.2.4 of the animal health/official certificate **does not apply** to the following crustaceans and fish, and they

may therefore originate from a third country or region thereof which is listed in Annex IX to Implementing Regulation (EU) 2021/405:

(a) crustaceans which are packaged and labelled for human consumption in accordance with the specific requirements for those animals as set out in Regulation (EC) No 853/2004 and which are no longer able to survive as living animals if returned to the aquatic environment,

(b) crustaceans which are intended for human consumption without further processing, provided they are packaged for retail sale in compliance with the requirements for such packages as set out in Regulation (EC) No 853/2004,

(c) crustaceans which are packaged and labelled for human consumption in accordance with the specific requirements for those animals as set out in Regulation (EC) No 853/2004 and which are intended for further processing without temporary storage at the place of processing,

(d) fish which are slaughtered and eviscerated before dispatch.

This animal health/official certificate applies to products of animal origin as well as to live aquatic animals including those destined for a disease control aquatic food establishment as defined in Article 4, point (52), of Regulation (EU) 2016/429 which are intended for human consumption in accordance with Section VII of Annex III to Regulation (EC) No 853/2004.

This animal health/official certificate shall be completed in accordance with the notes for the completion of certificates provided for in Chapter 4 of Annex I to Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2020/2235.

Part I:

Box reference I.20: Tick "Canning industry" for whole fish initially frozen in brine at -9°C or at a temperature higher than -18°C and intended for canning in accordance with the requirements of Section VIII, Chapter I, Part II, point 7, of Annex III to Regulation (EC) No 853/2004.

Tick "Products for human consumption" or "Further processing" for the other cases.

Box reference I.27: "CN code": Insert the appropriate Harmonised System (HS) code(s) of the World Customs Organisation under the following headings: 0301, 0302, 0303, 0304, 0305, 0306, 0307, 0308, 0511, 1504, 1516, 1518, 1603, 1604, 1605 or 2106.

"Nature of commodity": Specify whether aquaculture or wild origin.
"Treatment type": Specify whether live, chilled, frozen or processed.
"Manufacturing plant": Includes factory vessel, freezer vessel, reefer vessel, cold store and processing plant.

Part II:

(1) Part II.1 of this animal health/official certificate does not apply to countries with special public health certification requirements laid down in equivalence agreements or other Union legislation.

(2) "Fishery products" as defined in point 3.1 of Annex I to Regulation (EC) No 853/2004 (including cephalopod molluscs).

(3) Part II.2 of this animal health/official certificate shall not apply and shall be deleted when the consignment consists of:
- (a) species other than those listed in the Annex to Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2018/1882; or
- (b) wild aquatic animals and products of animal origin from those aquatic animals which are landed from fishing vessels for direct human consumption; or
- (c) products of animal origin from aquatic animals, other than live aquatic animals, which are ready for direct human consumption without undergoing further processing in the Union.

(4) Species listed in columns 3 and 4 of the table in the Annex to Implementing Regulation (EU) 2018/1882. Species listed in column 4 shall only be regarded as vectors under the conditions set out in Article 171 of Delegated Regulation (EU) 2020/692.

(5) Keep if appropriate/delete if not applicable. In the case of point II.2.4.1, deletion is not permitted if the consignment contains listed species for epizootic haematopoietic necrosis, infection with Taura syndrome virus or infection with yellow head virus, other than in the circumstances referred to in note (9).

(6) Code of the third country or territory, or zone, or compartment thereof as it appears in column 2 of the table in Part 1 of Annex XXI to Implementing Regulation (EU) 2021/404.

(7) Only applicable to consignments transiting through the Union and intended for a destination outside the Union, originating from third country or territory, or zone, or compartment thereof listed in Part 1 of Annex XXII to Implementing Regulation (EU) 2021/404 as authorised for transit through the Union of aquatic animals or products of animal origin from aquatic animals other than live aquatic animals accompanied by an animal health certificate corresponding to the present model certificate in accordance with column 5 of the table in Part 1 of Annex XXII to Implementing Regulation (EU) 2021/404.

(8) Code of the third country or territory, or zone, or compartment thereof as it appears in column 2 of the table

in Part 1 of Annex XXII to Implementing Regulation (EU) 2021/404.

(9) Points II.2.3.1, II.2.3.2 and II.2.4 of this animal health/official certificate do not apply and shall be deleted if the consignment contains only the following crustaceans or fish:

(a) crustaceans which are packaged and labelled for human consumption in accordance with the specific requirements for those animals set out Regulation (EC) No 853/2004 and which are no longer able to survive as living animals if returned to the aquatic environment,

(b) crustaceans which are intended for human consumption without further processing, provided that they are packaged for retail sale in compliance with the requirements for such packages set out in Regulation (EC) No 853/2004,

(c) crustaceans which are packaged and labelled for human consumption in compliance with the specific requirements for those animals set out in Regulation (EC) No 853/2004 and which are intended for further processing without temporary storage at the place of processing,

(d) fish which are slaughtered and eviscerated before dispatch to the Union.

(10) Applicable when the Member State of destination in the Union either has disease-free status for a category C disease as defined in Article 1, point (3), of Implementing Regulation (EU) 2018/1882, or is subject to an optional eradication programme established in accordance with Article 31(2) of Regulation (EU) 2016/429, otherwise delete.

(11) Applicable when the Member State of destination or part thereof in the Union has approved national measures for a specific disease as listed in Annex I or Annex II to Implementing Decision (EU) 2021/260, otherwise delete.

(12) Susceptible species as referred to in the second column of the table in Annex III to Implementing Decision (EU) 2021/260.

(13) Shall apply only to consignments of live aquatic animals.

(14) Point II.2.3.3 of this animal health/official certificate does not apply and shall be deleted if the consignment contains only the crustaceans referred to in note (9), points (a) to (c).

(15) To be signed by:
(a) an official veterinarian when Part II.2 Animal health attestation is not deleted,
(b) a certifying officer or an official veterinarian when Part II.2 Animal health attestation is deleted.

(16) Applicable to consignments entering the Union as from 3 September 2026.

[Official veterinarian] (9) (15) **/[Certifying officer]** (9) (15)

Name (in capital letters)

Date

Qualification and title

Stamp

Signature

GROWING PEOPLE

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