

**GUIDANCE DOCUMENT ON THE ANIMAL HEALTH REQUIREMENTS FOR  
PLACING ON THE MARKET, IMPORT AND TRANSIT OF AQUACULTURE  
ANIMALS ACCORDING TO COUNCIL DIRECTIVE 2006/88/EC AND  
COMMISSION REGULATION (EC) N° 1251/2008**

Communication from the European Communities

The following communication, received on 18 June 2009, is being circulated at the request of the Delegation of the European Communities.

1. The aim of this communication is to inform of the availability of the Guidance Document. This document serves to provide an introduction to the animal health requirements for the placing on the market, imports and transit of aquaculture animals as laid down in 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<sup>1</sup> and 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.<sup>2</sup>

2. The purpose of this document is to provide:

- Guidance on the scope of the animal health requirements relating to the movement of aquaculture animals, e.g. which animals, which types of farms and which types of movements are covered (Chapter 2);
- Guidance on where in the legislation the rules for different type of consignment can be found (Chapters 3 and 4); and
- Answers to some frequently asked questions (FAQ) (Chapter 5).

3. It is not the purpose of this document to present a complete description of the rules. This document should therefore not replace a reading of the legislation itself.

4. The document is directed mainly at competent authorities and aquaculture production businesses, exporters and importers of aquaculture animals and products thereof in EC member States and in third countries.

5. The document can be found at the following link:  
<http://ec.europa.eu/food/animal/liveanimals/aquaculture/SANCO-4788rev3.pdf>

<sup>1</sup> OJ L 328, 24.11.2006, p. 14

<sup>2</sup> OJ L 337, 16.12.2008, p. 41