



Explanatory meetings of the EU acquis – Chapter 13

# Aquaculture

**DG for Maritime Affairs and Fisheries**

*These slides accompany the explanation of the acquis to Albania and North Macedonia and can only be used for that purpose. Their content is subject to further development of the acquis and interpretation by the Court of Justice of the European Union*

# EU legislation

- **Common Fisheries Policy (and EMFF):**
  - Article 34 of the CFP Basic Regulation (Regulation 1380/2013): "promoting sustainable aquaculture".
- **Other policies/legislation:**
  - Environmental
  - health
  - organic production

# Aquaculture in the Common Fisheries Policy

- **Objectives:** promotion of sustainable aquaculture in the EU- sustainability, food security and growth and employment.
- **Approach:** Open Method of Coordination



# The Open Method of Coordination

- Union strategic guidelines: common priorities and targets
- Multiannual national strategic plans
- Exchange of information and best practices



# Union Strategic Guidelines COM(2013)229

1. Reduce administrative burdens
2. Facilitate access to water and space
3. Improve competitiveness
4. Exploit competitive advantages –  
"level playing field"

*Pending review*



# Multiannual national plans

- Based on Strategic Guidelines and specific conditions in the Member States
- Define Member States' objectives and the measures to achieve them
- Cover normally the period 2014-2020 (**pending review**)
- Consistent with EMFF planning

[https://ec.europa.eu/fisheries/cfp/aquaculture/multiannual-national-plans\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/fisheries/cfp/aquaculture/multiannual-national-plans_en)

# Promotion of sustainable aquaculture in the EMFF

- Innovative products, species, methods
- Productive investments
- Advisory services for farmers
- Human capital
- Increasing potential of aquaculture sites
- Encouraging new farmers
- Eco-management and organic aquaculture
- Environmental services
- Public health
- Animal health and welfare
- Stock insurance



# Other applicable legislation

[https://ec.europa.eu/fisheries/cfp/aquaculture/facts\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/fisheries/cfp/aquaculture/facts_en)



# FARMED IN THE EU REGIONS [REGION NAME]

## Environmental Impact Assessment

Potential impacts on the environment are assessed before farming is authorised  
Environmental Impact Assessment Directive (Directive 2011/92/EU)

## Water use

Taking water from a river, lake or other water body requires an authorisation  
Water Framework Directive  
(Directive 2000/60/EC)

## Discharges into the water

The use of feed, cleaning products and medicines that might disperse in the water requires an authorisation  
Water Framework Directive (Directive 2000/60/EC)  
Marine Strategy Framework Directive (Directive 2008/56/EC)

## Animal Health

The health status of aquaculture farms is monitored and all movements of animals to and from a farm are recorded

Animal Health Law (Regulation (EU) 2016/429);  
Aquatic Animal Health Directive (Directive 2006/88/EC);  
Regulation (EU) 2017/625 on official controls, replacing Regulation (EC) No 882/2004 in December 2019;  
Regulation (EC) No 999/2001 on disease prevention

## Food Safety & Hygiene

Consumer health is protected by regulating fish feeds, residues of certain substances, and ensuring healthy animals and hygiene for animals and food  
General Food Law (Regulation (EC) No 178/2002);  
Regulation (EC) No 999/2001 prevention of certain diseases;  
Regulation (EC) No 853/2004 on hygiene for food of animal origin;  
Regulation (EU) 2017/625 on official controls, replacing Regulation (EC) No 882/2004 in December 2019



fresh,  
local,  
healthy

## Animal Welfare

Farmers must ensure humane treatment of animals throughout the production cycle

Regulation (EC) No 12005 protecting animals during transport;  
Regulation (EC) No 1099/2009 protecting animals at the time of killing;  
Regulation (EU) 2017/625 on official controls, replacing Regulation (EC) No 882/2004 in December 2019

## Veterinary Medicines

The use of veterinary medicines requires a prescription by a veterinarian; only authorised veterinary medicines are permitted, within a residue limit  
Veterinary Medicinal Products (Directive 2001/82/EC);  
Regulation (EC) 726/2004 on the authorisation of veterinary products, and Council Directive 90/171/EEC on medicated feeds;  
Regulation (EC) 470/2009 establishing residue limits

## Use of non-native species

Regulation of the movement of non-native species. Invasive Alien Species listed as posing a severe threat to the ecosystem are not permitted

Regulation 708/2007 on the use of alien and locally absent species in aquaculture;  
Regulation 1143/2014 on Invasive Alien Species

## Planning / building permission

National/regional/local rules for granting permission to build infrastructure

Inland aspects are handled directly by the Member State; Maritime Spatial Planning Directive (Directive 2014/89/EU) in the case of activities at sea

## Land/sea use

(ownership, lease, consent...)

National/regional/local rules regulating the use of public space (sea)

Inland aspects are handled directly by the Member State; Maritime Spatial Planning (Directive 2014/89/EU) in the case of activities at sea

# Environmental legislation

- *Water Framework Directive (2000/60/EC)*
- *Marine Strategy Framework Directive (2008/56/EC)*
- *Birds Directive (Article 9, 2009/147)*
- *Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Directive (2011/92/EU)*
- *Invasive alien species (Regulation (EU) 1143/2014)*
- ***Regulation on the use of alien and locally absent species in aquaculture (Regulation 708/2007).***

# Health and welfare legislation

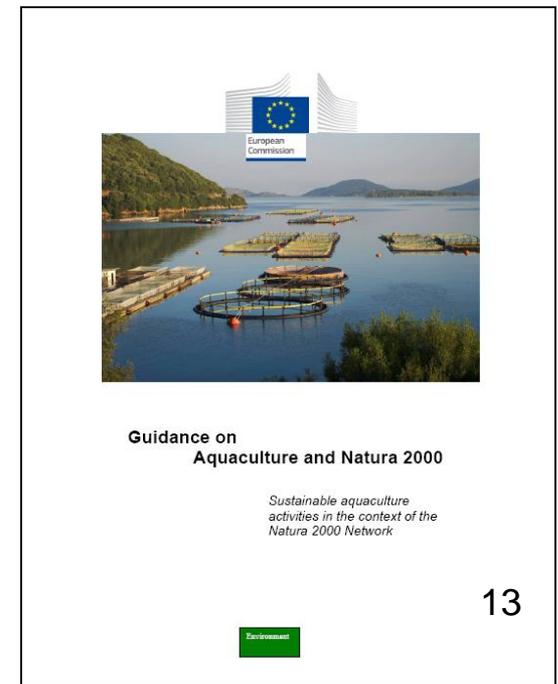
- *General Food Law*
- *Animal Health Law: new Regulation (EU) 2016/429 in force in 2021.*
- *Animal Welfare*
- *Veterinary medicines*

# Organic production

- ***New Regulation (EU) 2018/848 on organic production and labelling of organic products and repealing Council Regulation (EC) No. 834/2007***

# Guidance documents on aquaculture

- Integration of aquaculture in Natura2000
- Guidance documents on the WFD and MSFD requirements in relation to aquaculture





# **Council Regulation (EC) No 708/2007**

# **Alien and locally absent**

# **species**

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# Scope and Definitions

## ***Alien species:***

- *Species or subspecies of an aquatic organism occurring outside its known natural range and the area of its dispersal potential*
- *Polyploid organisms 4N (excludes triploid)*
- *Fertile artificially hybridised species*

## ***Locally absent species:***

*Species or subspecies of an aquatic organism which is locally absent from a zone within its natural range of distribution for biogeographical reasons*

## ***Non-target species:***

*moved accidentally together with an aquatic organism that is being introduced or translocated and likely to be detrimental to the aquatic environment*

## General obligations

### Article 4:

- *MS shall ensure that all **appropriate measures are taken to avoid adverse effects to biodiversity** (...) which may be expected to arise **from the introduction or translocation of aquatic organisms and non-target species in aquaculture** and from spreading of these species into the wild*
- *MS shall monitor and supervise aquaculture activities*

### Article 5:

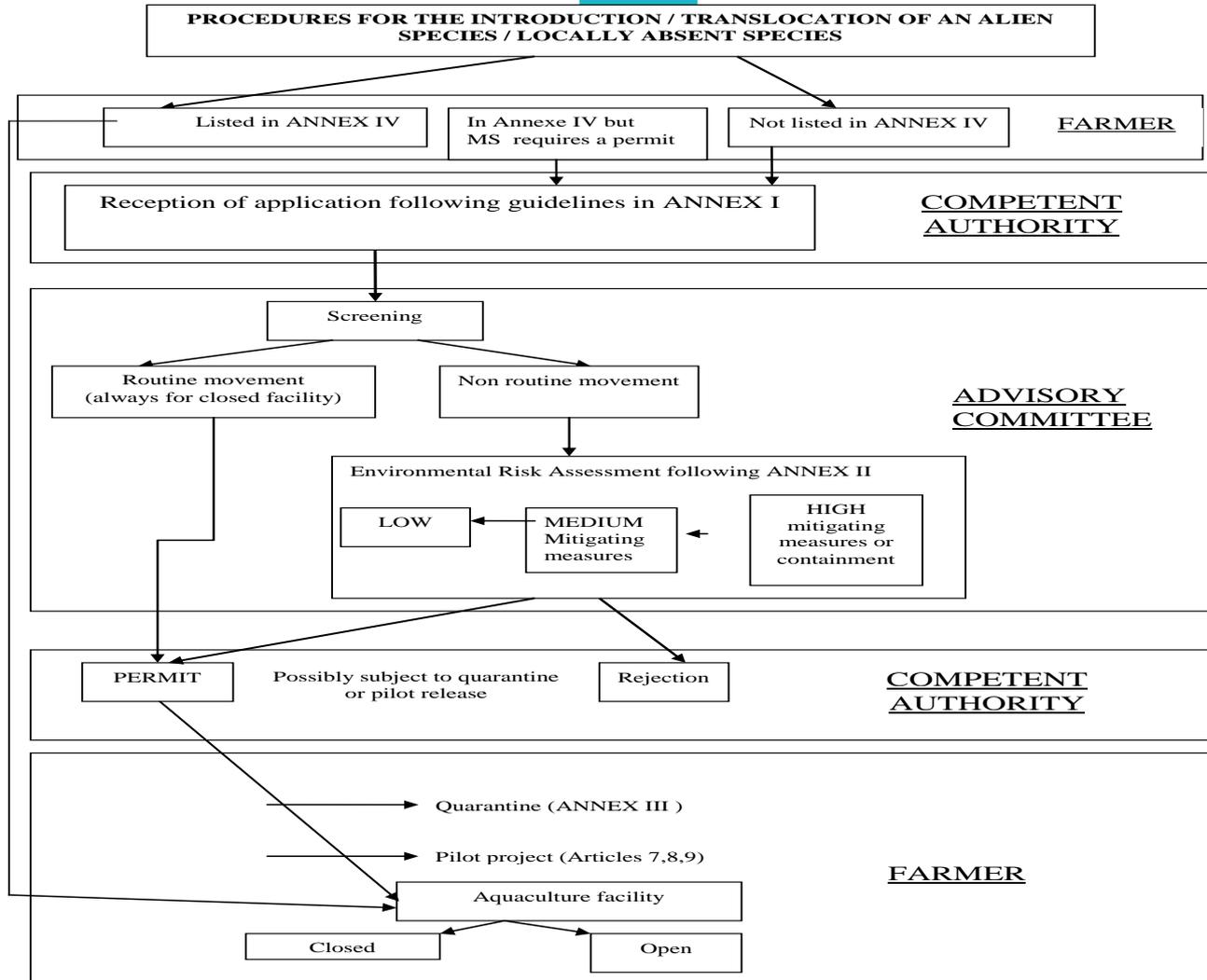
- *MS shall designate the **competent authority** (...) responsible for ensuring compliance with the requirements of the Regulation. Each competent authority may appoint an **advisory committee***

## Permits

- *Aquaculture operators intending to undertake the introduction of an alien species or the translocation of a locally absent species **shall apply for a permit from the competent authority***
- *The applicant shall submit a dossier following the indicative guidelines listed in Annex I*
- *Applications may be submitted for multiple movements to take place over a period of up to 7 years*
- *Species listed in **Annex IV**: not required*



European  
Commission



# Register

- MS shall **keep a register of introductions and translocations** containing historical record of all applications made and the documentation gathered before the issue of a permit and during the monitoring period
- The register shall be made **freely available**
- MS have to set up a **website accessible via Internet** in order to share with other MS relevant information included in the registers (Commission Regulation (EC) No 535/2008)
- MS shall draw up, publish and regularly update the **list of closed aquaculture facilities** in the website (amending Regulation 304/2011)



# Regulation (EU) 2018/848

# Organic aquaculture

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## Organic aquaculture – main specific aspects

- **Origin of animals:** juveniles, breeding, stocking from wild, etc.
- **Husbandry rules:** type of containment, stocking density, handling practices, etc.
- **Feed:** sources, ingredients, additives, composition, etc.
- **Disease** prevention, veterinary treatment, etc.
- **Authorised products for use in aquaculture** (cleaning and disinfection)
- **Data collection**
- **Control**
- **Rules on algae**

**Work ongoing on Implementing and Delegated Acts**



**Thank you for your attention!**

