

ANNEX IV

Submissions of declaration of disease-free status

<i>Requirements/information needed</i>	<i>Information/further explanation and justification</i>
1. Identification of the programme	
1.1. Declaring Member State	SLOVENIA
1.2. Competent authority (address, fax, e-mail)	Administration for food safety, veterinary sector and plant protection (AFSVSPP), Dunajska 22, SI-1000 Ljubljana, Slovenia Fax: +386 1 300 13 56 Phone: +386 1 300 13 00 e-mail: uvhvr@gov.si
1.3. Reference of this document	Declaration of a compartment free of VHS/IHN in accordance with Point 4.2 of Part II of Annex V of Directive 2006/88/EC
1.4. Date sent to the Commission	1 February 2021
2. Type of communication	
2.1. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Declaration of disease-free status 2.2. <input type="checkbox"/> Submission of application for disease-free-status	
3. National legislation¹	Veterinary Compliance Criteria Act (Official Gazette of RS, No. 93/05, 90/12 and 23/13), Rules on animal diseases (Official Gazette of RS, No. 81/07 and 24/10) and Rules on animal health requirements for aquaculture animals and products thereof, and on the prevention and control of certain diseases in aquatic animals (Official

¹ National legislation in force applicable to the declaration of and application for disease-free status.

	Gazette of RS, no. 6/14)
4. Diseases	
4.1. Fish	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> VHS <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IHN <input type="checkbox"/> ISA <input type="checkbox"/> KHV
4.2. Molluscs	<input type="checkbox"/> infection with <i>Marteilia refringens</i> <input type="checkbox"/> infection with <i>Bonamia ostreae</i>
4.3. Crustaceans	<input type="checkbox"/> White spot disease
5. Grounds for disease free-status	
5.1. <input type="checkbox"/> No susceptibles ²	
5.2. <input type="checkbox"/> Pathogen not viable ³	
5.3. <input type="checkbox"/> Historic free-status ⁴	
5.4. <input type="checkbox"/> Targeted surveillance ⁵	

² Applicable if none of the species susceptible to the disease(s) in question is present in the Member State, zone or compartment, and where relevant in its water source.

³ Applicable if the pathogen is known not to be able to survive in the Member State, zone or compartment, and where relevant in its water source. Provide the scientific information supporting the inability of the pathogen to survive in the Member State, zone or compartment.

⁴ Applicable if susceptible species are present, but where there has not been any observed occurrence of the disease for at least a period of 10 years before the date of declaration of application for the disease-free status, despite conditions that are conducive to its clinical expression, and if it complies *mutatis mutandis* with the requirements laid down in Part 1.1. of Annex V to Directive 2006/88/EC. This ground for disease-free status must be declared of or applied for by 1 November 2008. Provide detailed information on the compliance with Part 1.1. of Annex V to Directive 2006/88/EC.

⁵ Applicable if targeted surveillance complying with Community requirements has been in place for at least a period of two years without the detection of the disease agent on farm, or in mollusc farming areas that rears any of the susceptible species.

6. General information	
6.1. Competent authority ⁶	Competent authority is AFSVSPP), which is organised as affiliated body to the Ministry of agriculture, forestry and food. AFSVSPP) carries out the administrative tasks, inspection and control in the veterinary sector. Within AFSVSPP), these tasks are implemented by the internal veterinary inspection service, divided between 10 Regional Offices; and by the border veterinary inspection service, divided between 2 Border Inspection Posts (BIPs).
6.2. Organisation, supervision of all stakeholders involved in the programme to achieve disease free status ⁷	As it is a new farm animal health surveillance hasn't been yet performed. According to the legislation, fish specialists from National veterinary institute (NVI specialist) will perform animal health surveillance at the fish farm based on the risk level given. Official veterinarians will perform inspections based on the given risk and yearly plan prepared by inspection and animal health and animal welfare division.
6.3. An overview of the structure of the aquaculture industry in the area in question (disease-free Member State, zone or compartment) including types of production and species kept	<p>The proposed compartment consists of the fish farm "Okroglo" and stream Bistričica from its spring to the artificial dam (4,20 m high) approx. 1500 m downstream of the water inlet.</p> <p>1. Fish farm "Okroglo" was built 15 years ago, but there hasn't been connection through pipes between water inlet and fish tanks till today. With construction of pipes the fish farm has become functional and ready to use. Last</p>

Where there are parts of the Member State, zone or compartment in which the number of farms or mollusc farming areas is limited, but in which there are wild populations of susceptible species, information on the targeted surveillance in those wild populations shall be given.

Describe diagnostic methods and sampling schemes. When OIE or EU standards are applied, reference must be made to them. If not, describe them. Name the laboratories involved in the programme (National reference laboratory or designated laboratories).

⁶ A description shall be provided of the structure, competencies, duties and powers of the competent authority involved.

⁷ A description shall be provided of the competent authority in charge of the supervision and coordination of the programme and the different operators involved.

	<p>year, the fish farm was approved by the Regional office of AFSVSPP Ljubljana (SIRIB0070113). Fish farm is managed by aquaculture production business operator Vodomec d.o.o.</p> <p>There are two concrete tanks (channel type) – 25m x 5,60 m x 1,30 m at the fish farm. Tanks are divided in to 6 units. The capacity of the fish farm is approx. 5 tonnes per year.</p> <p>2. Stream Bistričica is a breeding stream for brown trout, managed by Fishing family Bistrica Domžale. There are several springs approx. 2700 m above the fish farm. According to the statement made by the fishing family, the upper part of the stream Bistričica, which is also part of the proposed compartment, doesn't have active management, so there is no repopulation done there.</p> <p>First fish – rainbow trout (<i>Oncorhynchus mykiss</i>) were brought to the fish farm in September 2020. Fish originate from fish farms declared free of VHS/IHN and managed by the same aquaculture business operator. Rainbow trout will be the only fish species reared at the fish farm and is intended for repopulation of open waters and further growing.</p> <p>Photos: 1-3, 7, 8</p>
<p>6.4. The notification to the competent authority of the suspicion and confirmation of the disease(s) in question has been compulsory since when (date)?</p>	<p>VHS and IHN have been compulsory notifiable in Slovenia since 1987 (Law on animal health, Official Gazette of SRS, no. 37/85)</p>
<p>6.5. Early detection system in place throughout the Member States, enabling the competent authority to undertake effective disease investigation and reporting since when (date)?⁸</p>	<p>Since 1987 (Law on animal health, Official Gazette of SRS, no. 37/85). Legal base for early detection system in</p>

⁸ The early detection systems shall in particular ensure the rapid recognition of any clinical signs consistent with the suspicion of a disease, emerging disease, or unexplained mortality in farms or mollusc farming areas, and in the wild, and the rapid communication of the event to the competent authority with the aim to activating diagnostic investigation with minimum delay. The early detection system shall include at least the following:

(a) broad awareness, among the personnel employed in aquaculture businesses or involved in the processing of aquaculture animals, of any signs consistent with the

	Slovenia at present are Veterinary Compliance Criteria Act (Official Gazette of RS, No. 93/05, 90/12 and 23/13), Rules on animal diseases (Official Gazette of RS, No. 81/07 and 24/10) and Rules on animal health requirements for aquaculture animals and products thereof, and on the prevention and control of certain diseases in aquatic animals (Official Gazette of RS, No. 6/14).
6.6. Source of aquaculture animals of species susceptible to the disease in question entering in the Member State, zone or compartments for farming.	Rainbow trout: fish farms declared free of VHS/IHN managed by the same aquaculture production business operator
6.7. Guidelines on good hygiene practice ⁹	Breeding is performed on the basis of good hygiene practice (regular cleaning and disinfection of equipment, keeping of records, etc.) Fish farm is fenced and protected with nets for the birds.
7. Area covered	
7.1. <input type="checkbox"/> Member State	
7.2. <input type="checkbox"/> Zone (entire water catchment area) ¹⁰	
7.3. <input type="checkbox"/> Zone (part of water catchment area) ¹¹ Identify and describe the artificial or natural barrier that delimits the zone and justify its capability to prevent the upward migration of aquatic animals from the lower stretches of the water catchment area.	

presence of a disease, and training of veterinarians of aquatic animals health specialists in detecting and reporting unusual disease occurrence;
(b) veterinarians or aquatic animal health specialists trained in recognising and reporting suspicious disease occurrence;
(c) access by the competent authority to laboratories with the facilities for diagnosing and differentiating listed and emerging diseases.

⁹ A description shall be provided in accordance with Article 9 of Directive 2006/88/EC

¹⁰ An entire water catchment area from its sources to its estuary.

¹¹ Part of a water catchment area from the source(s) to a natural or artificial barrier that prevents the upward migration of aquatic animals from the lower stretches of the water catchment area.

7.4. <input type="checkbox"/> Zone (more than one water catchment area) ¹²		
7.5. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Compartment independent of the surrounding health status ¹³		
Identify and describe for each farm the water supply ¹⁴	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Well, borehole or spring <input type="checkbox"/> Water treatment plant inactivating the relevant pathogen ¹⁵	<p>Source of water for the fish farm is stream Bistričica which arises approx. 2700 m upstream the fish farm. There are several springs, the main one in village Ambrož pod Krvavcem. The whole stream from springs to the water inlet for the fish farm is part of the proposed compartment. Inlet for the fish farm is on the left side of the stream, just above the artificial dam (2,10 m high).</p> <p>Photos: 1-3, 4,5,6</p>
Identify and describe for each farm natural or artificial barriers and justify its capability to prevent that aquatic animals enter each farm in a compartment from the surrounding watercourses.		<p>There are several impassable artificial dams on the stream Bistričica. Approx 400 m above the inlet is a 5,50 m high dam, there is one 2,10 m high dam just below the inlet and approx 1500 m downstream the inlet is another 4,20 m high dam. This dam is also the end of proposed independent compartment.</p> <p>From the inlet to the fish tanks water comes through pipes.</p> <p>Photos: 1-3, 5,9,10,11</p>
Identify and describe for each farm the protection against flooding and infiltration of water from the surrounding		Fish farm is protected against flooding.

¹² More than one water catchment area, including their estuaries, due to the epidemiological link between the catchment areas through the estuary.

¹³ Compartments comprising one or more farms or mollusc farming areas where the health status regarding a specific disease is independent of the health status regarding that disease of surrounding natural waters.

¹⁴ A compartment which is independent of the health status of surrounding waters, shall be supplied with water:
(a) through a water treatment plant inactivating the relevant pathogen in order to reduce the risk of the introduction of the disease to an acceptable level; or
(b) directly from a well, a borehole or a spring. Where such water supply is situated outside the premises of the farm, the water shall be supplied directly to the farm, and be channelled through a pipe.

¹⁵ Provide technical information to demonstrate that the relevant pathogen is inactivated in order to reduce the risk of the introduction of the disease to an acceptable level.

7.6. <input type="checkbox"/> Compartment dependent on the surrounding health status ¹⁶	
<input type="checkbox"/> One epidemiological unit due to geographical localisation and distance from other farms/farming areas ¹⁷	
<input type="checkbox"/> All farms comprising the compartment fall within a common biosecurity system. Describe the common biosecurity system. ¹⁸	
<input type="checkbox"/> Any additional requirements ¹⁹	
8. Geographical demarcation ²⁰	
8.1. Farms or mollusc farming areas covered (registration numbers and geographical situation)	Fish farm “Okroglo” Authorisation number SIRIB0070113 Lat: 46.272, Long: 14.574
8.2. <input type="checkbox"/> Non-free buffer zone ²¹	Geographical demarcation ²⁶
	Farms or mollusc farming areas covered (registration numbers,

¹⁶ Compartments comprising one or more farms or mollusc farming areas where the health status regarding a specific disease is dependent on the health status of surrounding natural waters regarding that disease.

¹⁷ A description shall be provided of the geographical localisation and the distance from other farms/farming areas that makes it possible to consider the compartment as one epidemiological unit.

¹⁸ A description shall be provided of the common biosecurity system.

¹⁹ Each farm or mollusc farming area in a compartment which is dependent on the health status of surrounding waters shall be subject to additional measures imposed by the competent authority, when considered necessary to prevent the introduction of diseases. Such measures may include the establishment of a buffer zone around the compartment in which a monitoring programme is carried out, and the establishment of additional protection against the intrusion of possible pathogen carriers or vectors.

²⁰ The geographical demarcation shall be clearly described and identified on a map, which must be attached as an Annex to the declaration/application. Any substantial modification in the geographical demarcation of the zone or compartment to be declared free must be subjected to a new application.

²¹ In connection with a zone or a compartment dependent on the health status of surrounding waters, a buffer zone in which a monitoring programme is carried out shall be established, as appropriate. The demarcation of the buffer zones shall be such that it protects the disease-free zone from passive introduction of the disease. (Part II.1.5 of Annex V to Directive 2006/88/EC).

	geographical situation and health status ²²⁾	
	Type of health surveillance	
8.3. <input type="checkbox"/> Non-free zones or compartments ²³	Geographical demarcation ²⁶	
	Farms or mollusc farming areas covered (registration numbers geographical situation and health status ²²⁾)	
8.4. <input type="checkbox"/> Extension of disease-free zone to other Member States ²⁴	Geographical demarcation ²⁶	
8.5. <input type="checkbox"/> Existing disease-free zones/compartments in the vicinity.	Geographical demarcation ²⁶	
	Farms or mollusc farming areas covered (registration numbers and geographical situation)	
9. Farms or mollusc farming areas which commence or recommence their activities²⁵		
9.1. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> New farm		Fish farm “Okroglo” was built 15 years ago and it was not functional till now, when the new owner connected the water inlet through pipes to the fish tanks.
9.2. Recommencing farm	Health history of farm known to Competent authority	
	Not subject to animal health measures in respect of listed diseases	
	Farm cleaned, disinfected and, as necessary, fallowed	

²² Health status in accordance with Part A of Annex III to Directive 2006/88/EC.

²³ Relevant in cases of declaration of disease-free Member States, where minor areas of the Member State are not considered disease-free.

²⁴ Where a zone extends to more than one Member State, it may not be declared a disease-free zone unless the conditions set out in points 1.3, 1.4, and 1.5 of Part II of Annex V to Directive 2006/88/EC apply to all areas of that zone. In that case both Member States concerned shall apply for approval for the part of the zone situated in their territory.

²⁵ In accordance with Part II.4 of Annex V to Directive 2006/88/EC

