ANNEX IV

Model for submissions of applications for and declarations of disease-free status

Requirements/information needed	***Information/further explanation and justification***
1. Identification of the programme	
1.1. Declaring Member State	SLOVENIA
1.2. Competent authority (address, fax, e-mail)	Administration of the Republic of Slovenia 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: uvhvvr@gov.si
1.3. Reference of this document	Declaration of a compartment free of VHS/IHN following a 2 year surveillance programme with reduced sample size Declaration of a surveillance programme was sent to SCoPAFF on April 2016. Due to some comments from one MS, representatives of the COM made on site visit in March 2017. We amended the programme according to the recommendations made by the COM and the declaration was presented at SCoPAFF in May 2017. We didn't receive any comments to the amended surveillance programme.
1.4. Data sent to the Commission	Declaration and relevant attachments, 20 March 2020
2. Type of communication	
2.1.**X** Declaration of disease-free status 2.2.□ Submission of application for disease-free-status	

3. National legislation[1]	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)
4. Diseases	
4.1. Fish	**X** VHS **X** IHN □ ISA □ KHV
4.2. Molluscs	□ infection with *Marteilia refringens* □ infection with *Bonamia ostrae*
4.3. Crustaceans	□ White spot disease
5. Grounds for disease free-status	
5.1. □ No susceptibles[2]	
5.2. □ Pathogen not viable[3]	
5.3. □ Historic free-status[4]	

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

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

5.4. **X** Targeted surveillance[5]	In accordance with Model B and Table 1B of Commission Decision 2001/183/EC
6. General information	
6.1. Competent authority[6]	Competent authority is AFSVSPP, 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 veterinary inspection service, divided between ten Regional Offices and two Border Inspection Posts (BIPs).
6.2. Organisation, supervision of all stakeholders involved in the programme to achieve disease free status [7]	Specialists for fish diseases from National Veterinary Institute (NVI), perform animal health surveillance at the fish farm. Fish farm is classified as "low risk" and one clinical inspection every two years is performed. Specialists for fish diseases from National Veterinary Institute (NVI), once per year, take samples of semen/ovarian fluid and organs for the detection of VHS/IHN virus (Rules on the carrying out of systematic surveillance of animal diseases and vaccination of animals, issued at the end of each year).

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.
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.

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	Fish farm is managed by Fishing family Koroška. Fish farm consists of hatchery, 3 outside concrete tanks and one larger earth pond. Three outside concrete tanks are intended for fingerlings and larger earth pond for brood stock. The only fish species reared at the fish farm is Brown trout (*Salmo trutta fario*). The main occupation of Fishing family Koroška is repopulation of open waters with Brown trout from their fish farm. Included in the proposed compartment are also the following streams managed by fishing family: 1. stream Šumec from its spring to the artificial barrier in Mežica; approximate length from the spring to the barrier is 2,2 km (document – streams in the compartment, point 1) 2. Šentanelska river from its spring with all its tributaries to the artificial barrier (document – streams in the compartment, point 2) **3**. Meža river from its spring with its tributaries to the stone dam in Mežica (document – streams in the compartment, point 3) 4. Zelenbreški stream (document – streams in the compartment, point 4) Photo 5 – fishing district with waters managed by Koroška fishing family
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)?	VHS and IHN have been compulsory notifiable in Slovenia since 1987 (Law on animal health, Official Gazette of SRS, no. 37/85)
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]	Since 1987 (Law on animal health, Official Gazette of SRS, no. 37/85)

[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

6.6. Source of aquaculture animals of species susceptible to the disease in question entering in the Member State, zone or compartments for farming.	Brood stock of brown trout inside the fish farm.
6.7. Guidelines on good hygiene practice[9]	Breeding is performed on the basis of good hygiene practice (regular cleaning and disinfection of equipment, disposal of dead fish, etc.) Hatchery is locked. All outside tanks are locked with metal cover which is perforated.
7. Area covered	
7.1. □ Member State	
7.2. □ Zone (entire water catchment area)[10]	
7.3. □ 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.	
7.4. □ Zone (more than one water catchment area)[12]	
7.5. **X** Compartment independent of the surrounding health status[13]	

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 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.

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.

Identify and describe for each farm the water supply[14]	**X** Well, borehole or spring □ Water treatment plant inactivating the relevant pathogen[15]	Supply for the hatchery and 3 sequential outside tanks is the spring water which flows through a pipe (closed system). The water capture is approx. 20 m from the hatchery (round concrete cover) (photo 2) Supply for the tank with brood stock is with water from the stream Šumec which comes through a pipe. (photo 1). Stream Šumec flows near the hatchery and is part of the proposed compartment. Outlet from the fish farm (hatchery and all tanks) is to the stream Šumec.(photo 3)
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.		Passage of fish to the fish farm is prevented. There are no fish in the upper part of the stream. Outlet pipes from tanks are at least 1 m above the stream surface. The water capture for the tank with brood stock is protected with nets. All proposed streams are included from their springs to the artificial barriers which prevent the migration of fish.
Identify and describe for each farm the protection against flooding and infiltration of water from the surrounding		Fish farm is protected against flooding. All tanks are approx. 1,5 m above the surface of the stream.
7.6. □ Compartment dependent on the surrounding health status[16]		

[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.

[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.

□ One epidemiological unit due to geographical localisation and distance from other farms/farming areas[17]	
□ All farms comprising the compartment fall within a common biosecurity system. Describe the common biosecurity system.[18]	
□ Any additional requirements[19]	
8. Geographical demarcation [20]	
8.1. Farms or mollusc farming areas covered (registration numbers and geographical situation)	Compartment comprising of: - fish farm with the hatchery and 4 outside concrete tanks (authorisation number SIRIB080102; lat: 46.52203, long: 14.84033), - stream Šumec from the spring to the artificial barrier, - Šentanelska river from the spring with its tributaries to the artificial barrier, - river Meža with its tributaries (Koprivna, Topla, Bistra, Jazbinski stream) from the spring to the stone dam (artificial barrier) in Mežica - stream Javorski potok from its spring to the outlet to river Meža, with its tributarie Kramarica from the spring - stream Zelenbreški from its spring to the artificial

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.

		barrier
8.2. □ Non-free buffer zone[21]	Geographical demarcation[26]	
	Farms or mollusc farming areas covered (registration numbers, geographical situation and health status[22])	
	Type of health surveillance	
8.3. □ 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. □ Extension of disease-free zone to other Member States[24]	Geographical demarcation[26]	
8.5. □ 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 activities[25]		
9.1. □ New farm		

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).

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

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	