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

# CHAPTER V

#### NOTIFICATION AND MINIMUM MEASURES FOR CONTROL OF DISEASES OF AQUATIC ANIMALS

### **SECTION 2**

### Suspicion of a listed disease – Epizootic investigation

### Article 29

## **Epizootic investigation**

1 Member States shall ensure that the epizootic investigation initiated in accordance with Article 28(b)(iii) is carried out where the examination provided for in Article 28(a) shows the presence of:

- a an exotic disease listed in Part II of Annex IV in any Member State;
  - or

2

- b a non-exotic disease listed in Part II of Annex IV in Member States, zones or compartments with a health status of either category I or III, as referred to in Part A of Annex III, for the disease in question.
- The epizootic investigation provided for in paragraph 1 shall be aimed at:
- a determining the possible origin and means of contamination;
- b investigating whether aquaculture animals have left the farm or mollusc farming area during the relevant period preceding the notification of the suspicion provided for in Article 26(1);
- c investigating whether other farms have been infected.

3 Where the epizootic investigation provided for in paragraph 1 shows that the disease may have been introduced into one or more farms, mollusc farming areas or unenclosed waters, the Member State concerned shall ensure that the measures provided for in Article 28 are applied in such farms, mollusc farming areas or unenclosed waters.

In the case of extensive water catchment areas or coastal areas, the competent authority may decide to limit the application of Article 28 to a less extensive area in the vicinity of the farm or the mollusc farming area suspected of being infected, where it considers that such less extensive area is sufficiently large to guarantee that the disease does not spread.

4 Where necessary, the competent authority of neighbouring Member States or third countries shall be informed of the suspected case of disease.

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In that event, the competent authorities of the Member States involved shall take appropriate action to apply the measures provided for in this Article within their territory.