

IR-007-2021.02.01-Health Requirements for importing Live Fish and gametes to I.R. of Iran

1- SCOPE

This IHR is drawn up for importing live Fish and gametes from abroad to Iran.

2-GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

1-The present general requirements are drawn up in accordance with Aquatic Animal Health Code of OIE 2019.

2-The import request will be scrutinized given the submitted documents and latest status of aquatics health in country of origin and risk assessment shall be carried out.

3-Visit by Iran Veterinary Organization (IVO) representative from farm of origin and consignment is obligatory, if required.

4-The importer shall prepare the required documents and papers and submit to IVO which might be different depending on the case.

5-IVO is entitled to approve or deny the eligibility of the country of origin taking into account the governing health regulations and the conducted investigations.

6- According to the Article 5.9.1. in Chapter 5.9. of OIE Code -2019 , IVO is entitled to halt the import of the consignments at any stages in case of happening of any animal health related events. IVO may prohibit the introduction into its territory of aquatic animals if these were found, on examination carried out at the frontier post by a member of the personnel of the Aquatic Animal Health Service, to be affected by a listed disease of concern to the importing country. Refusal of entry may also be applied to aquatic animals that are not accompanied by an international aquatic animal health certificate conforming to the requirements of the IVO.

7-Importing of any Genetically Modified products (**GMO**) is prohibited.

8- The **health certificates** for international trade in live aquatic animals with IRAN must issue in the format of Chapter 5.11. Of OIE Code -2019. Name of the zone or compartment of origin and **ISO Code** for Country of destination is necessary. The certificate reference number must be applied on all the pages of the certificate. Certificate must be issue not more than **3 days** before embarkation.

9- **Certificate of origin** must be issue by competent authority of the country of origin.

10- The registration number(s) of rail-wagon or lorry and the name of the ship should be given as appropriate. If known, the flight number of the aircraft.

3-COUNTRY OF ORIGIN REQUIREMENTS

- 1- The country shall be a member of OIE observing the aquatic health rules and regulations sending disease information to OIE with operative aquatic disease surveillance system.
- 2-The complete information on aquatic notifiable diseases shall be available (at least for the recent 2 years).
- 3-The OIE listed aquatic diseases and aquatic notifiable diseases **surveillance system** shall be operative.
- 4-The comprehensive **prevention, control and eradication plans for aquatic notifiable diseases** shall be existed.
- 5-The Official Veterinary service/ competent authority shall be hold accountable for aquatic diseases and issue Veterinary Health Certificate.
- 6- The Official Veterinary service /competent authority shall issue the Veterinary Health Certificate, compatible with OIE format, mentioned in Chapter 5.11. Of OIE Code -2019.

4-FARM OF ORIGIN REQUIREMENTS

- 1-The approve and registration of farm , its specifications , Health status of aquaculture zones or compartments must be declare by competent authority accordance with Annex II of the council **Directive 2006/88/EC**. The farm official controls&monitoring shallbe done accordance with council **Directive 2017/625/EC**.
- 3-The farm must have **Free Sale** and eligible for exporting to EU or USA member states. Other farms must be Audit and verified by IVO – experts.
- 4-The farm shall be covered by the OIE aquatic notifiable diseases surveillance system and **no** case of the OIE aquatic **notifiable diseases has been reported during last 2 years**.The farm must not associated with **any significant disease or pests within the previous 6 months** , and **any mortality in the past 3 months**.
- 5-In case of vaccination is conducted in fish, last date of vaccination, vaccination method and applied vaccine must be indicated.

5-CONSIGNMENT REQUIREMENTS

- 1- According to the Chapter 4.4. of OIE Code – 2019 ,all the salmonid eggs shall be disinfected not later than 48 hours before embarkation using an iodophore solution containing 100 ppm available iodine for a minimum of 10 minutes . No preservative or any other unapproved substances (Included but not limited to Malachite green) shall be used on during eggs production.
The eyed fish/gametes must be packaged in disposable containers and marking over the containers shall be in English and Farsi and includes: *Type of consignment-Number of fish/*

gametes -producing farm/company name-Exporting company-Under supervision of veterinary service of (The name of country, zone and compartment).

2-For ornamental fish, only live marine/fresh water fish included on the Iran Fishery Organisation list (**directive 39695**) permitted for importation into IRAN. Use of fish imported under these requirements for non-display purposes is prohibited. Animal health conditions and certification requirements for imports of fish for ornamental purpose must be accordance with council **Directive 2006/656/EC**.

All ornamental finfish shall be quarantine, for the following periods:

- Goldfish: 21 days
- Gouramis and cichlids: 14 days
- Other freshwater ornamental finfish and all marine ornamental finfish: 7 days

3- All fish in the consignment must be packaged in leak-proof bags .Eyed eggs must hibernated in insulated box on trays with ice .Each bag containing only one species. The bag must be colourless and sufficiently transparent to enable proper inspection and identification of the fish and must not contain any extraneous matter, unapproved plant material, pests or unauthorised species of fish. The use of outer bags of opaque materials or half-black bags to provide a dark shipping environment is acceptable. The bags must be placed within polystyrene boxes or cartons fitted with a plastic lining. Each box or carton must be clearly identified as part of a shipment/consignment and be individually identified.

4-The consignment shall be free from following Infections /diseases at the level described below:

Infection with	Zone		Farm	
	Yes	No	Yes	No
Oncorhynchus masou virus ¹	*			
Epizootic haematopoietic necrosis virus ¹	*			
Viral haemorrhagic septicaemia virus	*			
HPR-deleted or HPRO Infectious salmon anaemia virus	*			
Salmonid alphavirus ¹	*			
Infectious haematopoietic necrosis virus ¹	*			
Koi herpesvirus ²	*			
Spring viraemia of carp virus ³				
Aphanomyces invadans (epizootic ulcerative syndrome)	*			
Gyrodactylus salaris			**	
Infectious pancreatic necrosis virus			**	
Bacterial kidney disease			**	
Piscirickettsiosis			**	
Furunculosis			***	
Yersiniosis			***	
streptococcosis			***	
All parasitic infestations			****	
All fungal infestations			****	

* Based on the monitoring and surveillance and testing, which are approved by OIE or never reported in the country.

**Based on clinical symptoms and no history of the disease during the last two years and standard diagnostic tests for pathogen in six-month period. The date of last diagnostic tests of the diseases shall be stipulated in the health certificate and the tests results shall be attached.

*** According to the non-occurrence of the disease in the past two years and disinfection of eggs before embarkation.

**** According to the non-occurrence of the disease in the past 6 months and disinfection of consignment before embarkation.

1. Only for Salmonidae family

2. Only for Koi, Common carp and Ornamental fishes
3. Only for Cyprinidae family and Ornamental fishes

Note 1: Specific declaration is need for below species and countries:

- **USA:** Ceratomyxa shasta , Myxobolus cerebralis
- **Tilapia:** Viral nervous necrosis (VNN), Tilapia larvae encephalitis virus (TLEV) disease, Tilapia lake virus disease (TiLVD), *S. agalactiae serotype IX emerged in tilapia*, Francisellosis , Edwardsiellosis
- **Marine fish:** Grouper iridoviral disease , Viral nervous necrosis (VNN), Infection with red sea bream iridovirus , Vibriosis , Pasteurellosis
- **Sturgeon fish :** white sturgeon iridovirus , Namao virus
- **Ornamental fishes:** Mycobacteriosis
- **Goldfish:** must be zone/farm free from Spring viraemia of carp virus (SVCV), Goldfish haematopoietic necrosis virus (GFHNV) and *Aeromonas salmonicida* (other than goldfish ulcer disease strains) based on a program of monitoring and surveillance system. All goldfish in the consignment shall be treat with an effective parasiticide (eg trichlorfon, formaldehyde, sodium chloride) during the 7 days prior of export to Iran.

Note 2: Iran Veterinary Organization (IVO) is entitled to carry out the necessary tests on the imported live aquatics in accordance with **Directive 91-20**” Health rules and regulations for importing live aquatics to Iran”.

Note 3: All fish and eyed eggs in an imported consignment shall be deemed as a single lot.