

WORK PROGRAMME FOR THE COMMUNITY REFERENCE LABORATORY FOR FISH DISEASE, 2006

I. LEGAL FUNCTIONS AND DUTIES

The functions and duties of the Reference Laboratory are described in the Council Directive 93/53/EEC, and are mainly concerned with fish diseases of list I and II in Council Directive 91/67/EEC.

II. OBJECTIVES FOR THE PERIOD JANUARY - DECEMBER 2006

1. Organise and prepare for the Annual Meeting for the National Reference Laboratories for Fish Diseases in 2006.
2. Produce a report from the Annual Meeting 2006.
3. Collect data on the fish disease situation in EU.
4. Identify and characterise selected virus isolates of Infectious salmon anaemia (ISA), Viral Haemorrhagic Septicaemia (VHS) and Infectious Haematopoietic Necrosis (IHN) and related viruses including the production of antisera against the isolates if necessary
5. Optimization, standardisation and validation of RT-PCR for the diagnosis and identification of VHS.
6. Update and maintain a library of Infectious salmon anaemia (ISA), Viral Haemorrhagic Septicaemia (VHS) and Infectious Haematopoietic Necrosis (IHN) virus isolates and entering this information into a database.
7. Maintain the electronic library for information material concerning prominent fish diseases.
8. Re-design and update the webpage for the CRL.
9. Supply standard antisera and other reference reagents to the National Reference Laboratories in Member States.
10. Facilitate and provide training in laboratory diagnosis on the premises and on location, in particular for laboratories with special needs as determined after the previous Ring-tests.
11. Attending international meetings and conferences.