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 VII

DISEASE-FREE STATUS

Article 53

Suspension and restoration of disease-free status

1 Where a Member State has reason to believe that any of the conditions for maintaining its status as a disease-free Member State, zone or compartment have been breached, that Member State shall immediately suspend trade in susceptible species and vector species to other Member States, zones or compartments with a higher health status for the disease in question as laid down in Part A of Annex III and apply the provisions of Sections 2 and 4 of Chapter V.

2 Where the epizootic investigation provided for in Article 29(1) confirms that the suspected breach has not taken place, the disease-free status of the Member State, zone or compartment shall be restored.

3 Where the epizootic investigation confirms a significant likelihood that infection has occurred, the disease-free status of the Member State, zone or compartment shall be withdrawn, in accordance with the procedure under which that status was declared. The requirements laid down in Annex V shall be complied with before the disease-free status is restored.