

## WORK PROGRAMME FOR THE EUROPEAN UNION REFERENCE LABORATORY FOR FISH DISEASE, 2012

The functions and duties of the European Union Reference Laboratory for Fish Diseases (EURL) are described in the [Council Directive 2006/88/EF](#) Annex VI part I

### OBJECTIVES FOR THE PERIOD JANUARY - DECEMBER 2012

1. Organise and prepare for the 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting for the National Reference Laboratories for Fish Diseases (NRLs) in 2012.
2. Produce a report from the Annual Meeting 2012.
3. Prepare the Annual Inter-laboratory Proficiency Test year 2012 for the NRLs. The test will include all the listed exotic and non-exotic fish diseases pathogens: VHSV, IHNV, EHNV, ISAV, KHV and *Aphanomyces Invadans*.
4. Collate and analyse information gained from the Inter-laboratory Proficiency Test
5. Supply reference reagents to the NRLs in Member States.
6. Production of antisera against selected isolates when necessary.
7. Update and maintain a library of isolates of Infectious salmon anaemia virus (ISAV), Viral Haemorrhagic Septicaemia virus (VHSV) and Infectious Haematopoietic Necrosis virus (IHNV), Koi Herpes virus (KHV), enzootic haematopoietic necrosis virus (EHNV) and *Aphanomyces Invadans*.
8. Maintain a library of tissue material from fish infected with listed pathogens.
9. Update the webpage for the EURL, [www.eurl-fish.eu](http://www.eurl-fish.eu)
10. Update the diagnostic manuals for VHS, IHN, ISA, KHV disease, EHN and EUS on the EURL web page.
11. Collect information on strain variation occurring within pathogens causing the listed diseases VHS, ISA, EHN and KHV disease and provide recommendations on how to discriminate between various strains.
12. Collect and report data on the fish disease situation in EU, including all the listed non-exotic fish diseases given in Council Directive 2006/88/EC Annex IV Part 2 .
13. Identify and characterise selected isolates of listed viruses (serological and genetic characterisation).
14. Update and expand [www.fishpathogens.eu](http://www.fishpathogens.eu) with more pathogens.
15. Perform molecular epidemiology analysis to improve knowledge on diseases spreading mechanisms of viral pathogens
16. Assessment and standardisation of real-time PCR tests for the diagnosis, identification and typing of the listed non-exotic fish diseases.
17. Facilitate and provide training in laboratory diagnosis. The yearly training courses in methods used for diagnosis of fish diseases will be offered at the EURL laboratory facilities. The courses will primarily be for training of staff from NRLs and the content will depend on request from participants.
18. Organizing missions to relevant laboratories. Missions will focus on NRLs where on-site communication would be beneficial.
19. In collaboration with specialised experts WW to review selected emerging fish diseases in Europe and assess their potential listing as exotic or non-exotic diseases, e.g. using discontools and similar tools.
20. Attending missions, international meetings and conferences in order to be updated on diagnostic methods on listed exotic and non-exotic fish diseases.