

## COMMISSION DECISION

of 14 September 2000

## on certain protective measures in respect of infectious salmon anaemia in salmonids in the Faeroe Islands

(notified under document number C(2000) 2688)

(Text with EEA relevance)

(2000/574/EC)

THE COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Community,

Having regard to Council Directive 91/496/EEC of 15 July 1991 laying down the principles governing the organisation of veterinary checks on animals entering the Community from third countries and amending Directives 89/662/EEC, 90/425/EEC and 90/675/EEC <sup>(1)</sup>, as last amended by Directive 96/43/EC <sup>(2)</sup>, and in particular Article 18(7) thereof,Having regard to Council Directive 97/78/EC of 18 December 1997 laying down the principles governing the organisation of veterinary checks on products entering the Community from third countries <sup>(3)</sup>, and in particular Article 22 thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) On 2 April 2000 the diagnosis of infectious salmon anaemia (ISA) was confirmed in a group of salmon (*Salmo salar*) in a sea farm on Fuglafjordur in the Faeroe Islands. This is the first recorded outbreak of ISA on the Faeroe Islands.
- (2) According to initial information, preliminary steps have been taken by the Faeroe Islands authorities to avoid spreading the disease, including destruction of all the ISA-infected fish and slaughter of all remaining fish on the infected sea farm.
- (3) Epidemiological investigation of possible infection routes is taking place. Initially, no other aquaculture farms were suspected of being infected with ISA.
- (4) In the light of the situation, certain protective measures, in order to prevent the introduction of ISA in the Community, must be taken. These measures include a ban on the imports into the Community of live fish belonging to the family *Salmonidae*, as well as eggs and gametes thereof and specified conditions for the importation of slaughtered salmon.

(5) The measures shall remain in force until 1 April 2001.

(6) The measures provided for in this Decision are in accordance with the opinion of the Standing Veterinary Committee,

HAS ADOPTED THIS DECISION:

## Article 1

1. Member States shall prohibit imports of slaughtered salmon (*Salmo salar*), sea trout and rainbow trout originating in Faeroe Islands, unless eviscerated.

2. Member States shall prohibit imports from the Faeroe Islands of live fish belonging to the family *Salmonidae*, as well as eggs and gametes thereof.

## Article 2

In derogation to Article 1, Member States may allow the introduction of samples for scientific purposes.

## Article 3

The Member States shall alter the measures they apply in trade in order to bring them into line with this Decision. They shall immediately inform the Commission thereof.

## Article 4

This Decision shall apply until 1 April 2001.

## Article 5

This Decision is addressed to the Member States.

Done at Brussels, 14 September 2000.

For the Commission

David BYRNE

Member of the Commission

<sup>(1)</sup> OJ L 268, 24.9.1991, p. 56.<sup>(2)</sup> OJ L 162, 1.7.1996, p. 1.<sup>(3)</sup> OJ L 24, 30.1.1998, p. 9.