

Regulation on alien species in aquaculture

Official reference	Council Regulation (EC) No 708/2007 of 11 June 2007 concerning use of alien and locally absent species in aquaculture	
Relevant dates	Document	11/06/2007
	Publication	28/06/2007
	Entry into force	18/07/2007
Policy level	European	
Type of instrument	Regulation	
Geographical reach	EU Member States (applicable to all aquaculture activities, regardless dimensions, features and aquatic system)	
European contact point	Directorate-General for Maritime Affairs and Fisheries (DG MARE)	
Competent authorities in Belgium	Seawards from the baseline: Federal authorities; FPS Health, Food chain safety and Environment; DG Environment; Agency Marine Environment Landwards from the baseline: Flemish authorities; policy domain Agriculture and Fisheries	

// abstract:

This regulation creates a framework to evaluate and minimise the possible impact of alien and locally absent species in aquaculture activities on aquatic habitats. The objective is to achieve a sustainable development of the aquaculture sector. The Member States have to take all the measures needed to prevent negative effect on the biodiversity caused by the introduction or translocation of aquatic organisms and non-target species in aquaculture and by the spread of these species into the wild. Each Member State also has to designate a competent authority with an advisory board (scientific recommendations). The regulation stipulates the rules and procedures for the certification of aquaculture companies when introducing alien species or translocating locally absent species. Moreover, the regulation determines the conditions for introductions and translocations that need to be respected after the certificate has been delivered (e.g. quarantine or pilot release). Finally, the Member States have to keep a register of all introductions and translocations, providing a historical overview of all applications and related information.