

**Japan's comments on the Aquatic Code and the proposed amendment  
of the Aquatic Code in the Aquatic Animal Health Standards  
Commission Report of the October 2008 meeting**

**List of comments**

- 1. Comments on paragraph 13.1 of “the Report of the Meeting of the OIE Aquatic Animal Health Standards Commission, Paris, 13-17 October 2008**
- 2. Chapter 1.2.3 Diseases listed by the OIE, Article 1.2.3.3. – Abalone herpes-like virus disease (Annex IV)**

## **1. Comments on paragraph 13.1 of “the Report of the Meeting of the OIE Aquatic Animal Health Standards Commission, Paris, 13-17 October 2008**

### **General Comment**

Japan recognizes that Aquatic Commission proposes to delete two diseases from the OIE list and remove 11 chapters from the OIE standards. While Japan has no objection to the proposals, Japan would like to request the Aquatic Commission to give Members sufficient time for thorough consideration and submission of comments in view of consequences of the deletion as stated below.

Japan would like to emphasize that diseases contained in the OIE list and related chapters are subject for quarantine measures of the Members. Based on paragraph 3 of Article 1.3.1.2, deleting a disease from the list necessitates decision-making on quarantine measures for that disease in member countries. If a Member decides to maintain the measures, risk assessment is required for justification. If it decides to discontinue the measures, it is desirable to conduct risk communication with stakeholders with framework of risk analysis.

**2. Chapter 1.2.3 Diseases listed by the OIE, Article 1.2.3.3. – Abalone herpes-like virus disease (Annex IV)**

**General Comment**

Japan appreciates the Aquatic Animal Commission for taking Japan's comment into consideration and revised the name of disease from "Abalone Viral Mortality (AVM) Complex" to "Herpes-like Virus Disease". Japan strongly supports OIE's proposal of focusing the scope of AVM complex to the herpes-like virus associated manifestation.