

## Letter of Agreement between the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) and the International Council for Exploration of the Seas (ICES)

Based on their mutual interest in preventing the spread of unwanted organisms and diseases internationally within the aquatic environment, the World Organisation for Animal Health, hereinafter referred to as OIE, and the International Council for Exploration of the Seas, hereinafter referred to as ICES, agree to undertake the following activities:

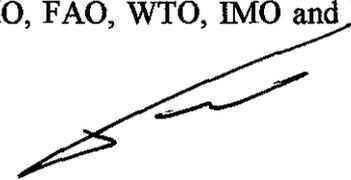
1. Each party will keep the other party informed of activities that may be of mutual interest.
2. Each organisation will invite the other party to participate in meetings at which matters of mutual interest will be discussed. OIE and ICES will normally pay their own costs in response to such invitations. Note: Administrative arrangements for experts participating in working groups will follow the established rules of each organisation.
3. The OIE will forward to ICES its catalogue of publications to enable it to request OIE publications on activities related to the work of ICES. ICES will benefit from the same concessional rates as other organisations affiliated to the OIE and vice versa. OIE and ICES will exchange free of charge documents on subjects of mutual interest. Whereas the participation of experts in scientific working groups will follow the established rules of each organisation.
4. The two organisations will endeavour to develop further cooperation through both formal and informal consultations on the issues of common interest listed below as well as on other issues that may be identified by the two organisations in future.

### ISSUES OF COMMON INTEREST

- General information on the mariculture industry.
- Scientific research on transfer and diseases of aquatic animals.
- The development and revision of international policies, guidelines and standards relevant to the international movement of aquatic animals.
- Information on activities of intergovernmental bodies such as WHO, FAO, WTO, IMO and ISO that may be relevant to international movement of aquatic animals.

  
Gerd Hubold  
General-Secretary of ICES

Date: 1 December 2007

  
Bernard Vallat  
Director General of the OIE

Date: 10 DEC 2007