

To: Interested Parties

12 April 2007

Reference: FSH/0082

Transitional Arrangements: Health certification for the import of fishery products and live bivalve molluscs

Dear Sir or Madam

This letter is to inform you of an agreement reached by Member States at the Standing Committee on the Food Chain and Animal Health (SCoFAH) on 22 March in Brussels.

The Standing Committee voted on a draft Commission Regulation amending Regulation (EC) No 2076/2005 laying down transitional arrangements for the implementation of Regulations (EC) No 853/2004, (EC) No 854/2004 and (EC) No 882/2004 of the European Parliament and of the Council and amending Regulations (EC) No 853/2004 and (EC) No 854/2004. This Commission Regulation is expected to come into force following the day of its publication in the Official Journal of the European Union and will have the following effect:

- a) With effect from **1 May 2007** only new import health certification as set out in Commission Regulation 1664/2006 may be used by third countries for the products referred to in Annex VI to Regulation 2074/2005 (as amended), including fishery products and live bivalve molluscs. The country specific health certification, which will be classed as the 'previous certification regime', will only be accepted at UK Border Inspection Posts up to **30 June 2007** provided they were signed **before** 1 May 2007.

- b) For imports of fish oil for human consumption, new health certification will be required with effect from **31 October 2007**. The current health certification will only be accepted at UK Border Inspection Posts up to **31 December 2007** provided they were signed **before** 31 October 2007.
- c) Presently imports of fishery products and live bivalve molluscs from List II third countries must be accompanied by health certificates as laid down in Decisions 95/328/EC and 96/333/EC respectively. However, for animal health purposes imports of these products after 1 May 2007 will have to be supplemented by the model health certificate laid down in Annex VI to Regulation (EC) No 2074/2005. Consignments from List II countries can only be imported and marketed on the domestic market of the importing Member State or Member States allowing the same import from the same countries and establishments.

We will inform you as soon as possible when this Regulation has been published. If you have any questions on this letter please contact me or my colleague Mariam Aleem (Tel. 0207 276 8903).

Yours faithfully

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