



8 January 2026

(26-0193)

Page: 1/2

Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures

Original: English

NOTIFICATION

1. Notifying Member: VIET NAM

If applicable, name of local government involved:

2. Agency responsible: Department of Fisheries And Surveillance, Ministry of Agriculture and Environment

3. Products covered (provide tariff item number(s) as specified in national schedules deposited with the WTO; ICS numbers should be provided in addition, where applicable): Live aquatic animals and live aquatic products

4. Regions or countries likely to be affected, to the extent relevant or practicable:

All trading partners

Specific regions or countries:

5. Title of the notified document: Draft Circular Amendments and additions to certain articles of Circular No. 25/2018/TT-BNNPTNT dated 15 November 2018, issued by the Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development, guiding the risk assessment and licensing of imported live aquatic products. **Language(s):** Vietnamese and English. **Number of pages:** 29 and 25

https://members.wto.org/crnattachments/2025/SPS/VNM/25_09241_00_x.pdf

https://members.wto.org/crnattachments/2025/SPS/VNM/25_09241_00_e.pdf

6. Description of content: The draft Circular is developed to streamline and simplify administrative procedures, resolve practical bottlenecks, and enhance the validity and efficiency of state management regarding risk assessment and licensing for the import of live aquatic products, in alignment with the administrative reform policy of the Ministry of Agriculture and Environment.

Accordingly, the Draft focuses on shortening the processing time for administrative procedures: the timeframe for issuing or reissuing live aquatic product import permits is reduced from 35 to 30 days for cases requiring risk assessment, and from 12 to nine days for cases not requiring risk assessment; notably, the timeframe for reissuing permits is significantly reduced from five days to two days. Furthermore, the Draft amends application requirements to promote electronic submissions, permitting the use of scanned copies of original documents to reduce costs for organizations and individuals, and waiving the requirement for certain documents if they are accessible via specialized databases.

In addition, the Draft addresses several inadequacies arising from practical management. This includes standardizing the nomenclature of regulatory bodies in accordance with the new organizational model (replacing the "General Department of Fisheries" with the "Fisheries and Fisheries Inspection Department"; and the "Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development" with the "Ministry of Agriculture and Environment"). It also replaces all forms issued under Circular No. 25/2018/TT-BNNPTNT to ensure consistency and ease of implementation.

Moreover, the Draft amends and supplements certain provisions of Circular No. 01/2022/TT-BNNPTNT, such as expanding the scope of adjustments on permits, introducing hybrid (in-person and online) council meetings, and repealing obsolete

<p>regulations. These changes aim to facilitate the importation of live aquatic products and promote the sustainable development of the fisheries sector.</p>	
<p>7. Objective and rationale: <input type="checkbox"/> food safety, <input type="checkbox"/> animal health, <input type="checkbox"/> plant protection, <input type="checkbox"/> protect humans from animal/plant pest or disease, <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> protect territory from other damage from pests.</p>	
<p>8. Is there a relevant international standard? If so, identify the standard:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Codex Alimentarius Commission (e.g. title or serial number of Codex standard or related text):</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> World Organization for Animal Health (OIE) (e.g. Terrestrial or Aquatic Animal Health Code, chapter number):</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> International Plant Protection Convention (e.g. ISPM number):</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> None</p> <p>Does this proposed regulation conform to the relevant international standard?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p>If no, describe, whenever possible, how and why it deviates from the international standard:</p>	
<p>9. Other relevant documents and language(s) in which these are available:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Fisheries Law No 18/2017/QH14 – Circular No. 25/2018/TT-BNNPTNT dated 15 November 2018, issued by the Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development, guiding the risk assessment and licensing of imported live aquatic products 	
<p>10. Proposed date of adoption (dd/mm/yy): 24 February 2026</p> <p>Proposed date of publication (dd/mm/yy): 24 February 2026</p>	
<p>11. Proposed date of entry into force: <input type="checkbox"/> Six months from date of publication, and/or (dd/mm/yy): 24 February 2026</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Trade facilitating measure</p>	
<p>12. Final date for comments: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sixty days from the date of circulation of the notification and/or (dd/mm/yy): 9 March 2026</p> <p>Agency or authority designated to handle comments: <input type="checkbox"/> National Notification Authority, <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> National Enquiry Point. Address, fax number and e-mail address (if available) of other body:</p> <p>Viet Nam Sanitary and Phytosanitary Notification Authority and Enquiry Point No 10 Nguyen Cong Hoan Street, Giang Vo ward, Hanoi, Viet Nam Tel: +(84 4) 3734 4764 E-mail: spsvietnam@mae.gov.vn Website: http://www.spsvietnam.gov.vn</p> <p>Or</p> <p>Department of Fisheries And Surveillance 10 Nguyen Cong Hoan, Giang Vo ward, Ha Noi, Viet Nam Tel: +(84 4) 3724 5374 E-mail: Khoibinh2006@gmail.com Havanhuy56789@gmail.com</p>	
<p>13. Text(s) available from: <input type="checkbox"/> National Notification Authority, <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> National Enquiry Point. Address, fax number and e-mail address (if available) of other body:</p> <p>http://www.spsvietnam.gov.vn/thong-bao-viet-nam</p>	