



20 April 2017

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Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures

Original: English

NOTIFICATION OF EMERGENCY MEASURES

Addendum

The following communication, received on 20 April 2017, is being circulated at the request of the Delegation of Australia.

Biosecurity (Suspended Goods – Uncooked Prawns) Amendment (Exceptions) Determination (No. 3) 2017 – Health Certificates

On 6 January 2017, Australia suspended the importation of uncooked prawns (including prawn meat) under the Biosecurity (Suspended Goods – Uncooked Prawns) Determination 2017 (the Determination). This was due to an unacceptable level of biosecurity risk posed by white spot syndrome virus (WSSV).

On 5 April 2017, Australia notified a third amendment (G/SPS/N/AUS/412/Add.3), exempting uncooked Australian wild-caught prawns exported overseas for processing, and re-exported to Australia. This exemption was granted on the provision that these products met a number of interim measures to ensure biosecurity risks are adequately managed. Australia has developed these interim measures and a revised model health certificate, including all required health attestations (see link below).

To facilitate trade in uncooked Australian wild-caught prawns exported overseas for processing, and re-exported to Australia, importers must hold a valid Australian import permit which contains the revised interim measures. The competent authority (CA) of the exporting country is also required to certify that the prawn consignment has been processed in CA approved premises with procedures in place to ensure product segregation throughout transport, processing and storage. In addition, the CA must certify that the processed prawns have:

- been found free of WSSV and yellow head virus (YHV) based on sampling and testing methods recognised by the World Organisation for Animal health (OIE); and
- had at least the head and shell removed.

Australia will be implementing measures at the border to verify health certificate attestations. At-border measures will include on-arrival inspection and testing for WSSV and YHV. On-arrival testing for WSSV and YHV will continue for 100 percent of consignments while interim conditions remain in place.

Trading partners that can meet the interim measures and wish to re-export uncooked Australian wild-caught prawns to Australia are requested to contact the Australian Government Department of Agriculture and Water Resources to seek approval of export health certification prior to the commencement of trade.

http://members.wto.org/crnattachments/2017/SPS/AUS/17_1946_00_e.pdf

This addendum concerns a:

- ☐ Modification of final date for comments
- ☒ Modification of content and/or scope of previously notified regulation
- ☐ Withdrawal of regulation
- ☐ Change in period of application of measure
- ☐ Other:

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