



29 June 2017

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Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures

Original: English

NOTIFICATION OF EMERGENCY MEASURES

Addendum

The following communication, received on 29 June 2017, is being circulated at the request of the Delegation of Australia.

Biosecurity (Suspended Goods - Uncooked Prawns) Determination 2017 – ongoing import conditions

On 10 January 2017, Australia notified that the importation of uncooked prawns (including prawn meat) had been suspended under the Biosecurity (Suspended Goods - Uncooked Prawns) Determination 2017 (the suspension) for a period of six months. This was due to an unacceptable level of biosecurity risk posed by white spot syndrome virus (WSSV).

It is intended that import conditions will be put in place to facilitate safe trade in prawns when the suspension lapses on 6 July 2017. These import conditions will remain in place while Australia undertakes the review of Australia's import conditions for prawns and prawn products, announced by Australia's Director of Biosecurity on 16 May 2017 (G/SPS/N/AUS/422).

After the suspension lapses, Australia will consolidate raw prawns (i.e. uncooked frozen prawns that have had the head and shell removed), marinated prawns, and Australian prawns processed overseas, into one product class. These prawns will be subject to the same import conditions.

A key import condition is that competent authorities will be required to certify that these prawns have been found post-processing to be free of white spot syndrome virus (WSSV) and yellow head virus (YHV) based on sampling and testing methods recognised by the World Organization for Animal Health (OIE). These prawns will also be subject to inspection and testing on-arrival in Australia for WSSV and YHV. Australia will issue another notification before the suspension lapses to confirm import conditions for all prawns and prawn products. This notification will include a link to the updated model export health certificate.

Trading partners seeking to resume trade in uncooked prawns and prawn products are asked to contact the department as soon as possible to confirm that the revised import conditions can be met. Trade in uncooked prawns and prawn meat can only resume once the department has received this confirmation and import permits have been updated to reflect the new import conditions.

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:

Agency or authority designated to handle comments: National Notification Authority, National Enquiry Point. Address, fax number and e-mail address (if available) of other body:

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