



14 October 2016

(16-5564)

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Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures

Original: English

**NOTIFICATION**

<b>1. Notifying Member:</b> AUSTRALIA <b>If applicable, name of local government involved:</b>
<b>2. Agency responsible:</b> Australian Government Department of Agriculture and Water Resources
<b>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):</b> Fish and Fish products
<b>4. Regions or countries likely to be affected, to the extent relevant or practicable:</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> All trading partners (except New Zealand) <input type="checkbox"/> Specific regions or countries:
<b>5. Title of the notified document:</b> Fish and fish products for histamine analysis - Proposed risk food classification - request for comment. <b>Language(s):</b> English. <b>Number of pages:</b> 3
<b>6. Description of content:</b> Australia is preparing science-based risk statements on the risks associated with certain imported foods. As each risk statement is prepared, they are published on the Food Standards Australia New Zealand website ( <a href="http://www.foodstandards.gov.au/consumer/importedfoods/Pages/FSANZ-advice-on-imported-food.aspx">http://www.foodstandards.gov.au/consumer/importedfoods/Pages/FSANZ-advice-on-imported-food.aspx</a> ). In response to the risk statement on fish and fish products for histamine, Australia is proposing changes to the inspection and analysis of specified fish and fish products. Australia proposes these changes to ensure that these fish and fish products do not contain more than 200 mg/kg of histamine in the fish or fish products. Under the proposed changes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- fish and fish products that are, or contain more than 300 g/kg of, fish of the families Scombridae, Coryphaenidae, Pomatomidae, Carangidae, Clupeidae, Engraulidae or Scomberesocidae would be classified as risk food under the Imported Food Control Act 1992; and</li><li>- the specified fish and fish products would be subject to an initial 100 per cent rate of inspection and analysis for histamine. If consignments are found to comply with the 200 mg/kg level in the Australia New Zealand Food Standards Code then this rate of inspection and analysis would reduce to 25 per cent of consignments from each producer and then ultimately to 5 per cent of consignments from each producer.</li></ul> Specific detail on the kinds of fish and the initial increase in the rate of inspection and analysis is available at <a href="http://www.agriculture.gov.au/import/goods/food/notices/ifn-17-16">http://www.agriculture.gov.au/import/goods/food/notices/ifn-17-16</a> . It is expected that these changes would take effect in December 2016.
<b>7. Objective and rationale:</b> <input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> protect territory from other damage from pests.

**8. Is there a relevant international standard? If so, identify the standard:** **Codex Alimentarius Commission (e.g. title or serial number of Codex standard or related text):**

- Quick frozen fish fillets (Codex Stan 190-1995) (Codex 1995)
- Quick frozen fish sticks (fish fingers), fish portions and fish fillets - breaded or in batter (Codex Stan 166-1989) (Codex 1989a)
- Quick frozen blocks and fish fillet, minced fish flesh and mixtures of fillets and minced fish flesh (Codex Stan 165-1989) (Codex 1989b)
- Canned finfish (Codex Stan 119-1981) (Codex 1981a)
- Canned tuna and bonito (Codex Stan 70-1981) (Codex 1981b)
- Canned sardines and sardine-type products (Codex Stan 94-1981) (Codex 1981c)
- Smoked fish, smoke-flavoured fish and smoke-dried fish (Codex Stan 311-2013) (Codex 2013)
- Boiled dried salted anchovies (Codex Stan 236-2003) (Codex 2003a)
- Salted atlantic herring (*Clupea harengus*) and salted sprat (*Sprattus sprattus*) (Codex Stan 244-2004) (Codex 2004)
- Fish sauce (Codex Stan 302-2011) (Codex 2011)
- Code of practice for fish and fishery products CAC/RCP 52-2003

 **World Organization for Animal Health (OIE) (e.g. Terrestrial or Aquatic Animal Health Code, chapter number):** **International Plant Protection Convention (e.g. ISPM number):** **None****Does this proposed regulation conform to the relevant international standard?** **Yes  No**

**If no, describe, whenever possible, how and why it deviates from the international standard:** In Australia, the applicable standard for fish and fish products specifies that these foods must not contain more than 200 mg/kg of histamine. This is consistent with Codex standards. However, the Codex standard for fish sauce (Codex Stan 302-2011) provides that the product must not contain more than 40 mg histamine per 100 g (400 mg/kg). The applicable standard in Australia specifies that fish sauce must not contain more than 200 mg/kg histamine.

**9. Other relevant documents and language(s) in which these are available:****10. Proposed date of adoption (dd/mm/yy):** December 2016**Proposed date of publication (dd/mm/yy):** 13 October 2016**11. Proposed date of entry into force:  Six months from date of publication, and/or (dd/mm/yy):** December 2016 **Trade facilitating measure****12. Final date for comments:  Sixty days from the date of circulation of the notification and/or (dd/mm/yy):** 13 December 2016 (9 a.m. Australian Eastern Daylight Time)**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:**

The Australian SPS Notification Point  
 GPO Box 858  
 Canberra ACT 2601  
 Australia  
 Fax: +(61 2) 6272 3678  
 E-mail: sps.contact@agriculture.gov.au

**13. Text(s) available from:  National Notification Authority,  National Enquiry Point. Address, fax number and e-mail address (if available) of other body:**

The Australian SPS Notification Point  
GPO Box 858  
Canberra ACT 2601  
Australia  
Fax: +(61 2) 6272 3678  
E-mail: sps.contact@agriculture.gov.au

Specific detail is available at

<http://www.agriculture.gov.au/import/goods/food/notices/ifn-17-16>.