

WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION

G/SPS/N/EEC/197

1 May 2003

(03-2327)

Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures

Original: English

NOTIFICATION

1. Member to Agreement notifying: <u>EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES</u> If applicable, name of local government involved:
2. Agency responsible: Commission of the European Communities. Health & Consumer Protection Directorate-General Directorate E – Food Safety, Plant Health, Animal Health and Welfare, International questions
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): Molluscs (CN 0307)
4. Regions or countries likely to be affected, to the extent relevant or practicable: Member States of the European Communities (EC) and third countries exporting the products concerned to the EC.
5. Title, language and number of pages of the notified document: Draft Commission Decision laying down the animal health conditions and certification requirements for imports of live molluscs, their eggs and gametes for further growth, fattening, relaying, or human consumption (SANCO/10078/2002 Rev. 8, 17 pages).
6. Description of content: This Draft decision facilitates trade by creating harmonized import rules for the European Communities. A transitional period of time would be provided for the implementation of these new import certification requirements. Commission Decision 95/352/EC laying down the animal health conditions and the certification requirements for the importation from third countries of <i>Crassostrea gigas</i> for relaying in Community waters (OJ L 204, 30/08/95 pp. 13-19) is repealed.
7. Objective and rationale: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> food safety, <input checked="" 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. International standard, guideline or recommendation: <input type="checkbox"/> Codex Alimentarius Commission, <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Office International des Epizooties, <input type="checkbox"/> International Plant Protection Convention, <input type="checkbox"/> None If an international standard, guideline or recommendation exists, give the appropriate reference and briefly identify deviations: This proposal conforms to the rules of the OIE "International Aquatic Animal Health Code"

9. Relevant documents and language(s) in which these are available: European Commission Document SANCO/10078/2002 Rev. 8, (available in all community languages). When adopted it will be published in the Official Journal available at: http://europa.eu.int/eur-lex/en/oj/index.html
10. Proposed date of adoption: 15 September 2003
11. Proposed date of entry into force: 1 April 2004
12. Final date for comments: Sixty (60) days after the date of notification Agency or authority designated to handle comments: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EC notification authority, <input type="checkbox"/> National enquiry point, or address, fax number and E-mail address (if available) of other body:
13. Texts available from: <input type="checkbox"/> National notification authority, <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EC enquiry point, or address, fax number and E-mail address (if available) of other body: