

NOTIFICATION

1. Member to Agreement notifying: <u>JAPAN</u> If applicable, name of local government involved:
2. Agency responsible: Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries
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): Aquatic animals
4. Regions or countries likely to be affected, to the extent relevant or practicable: All countries.
5. Title, language and number of pages of the notified document: Amendment of the Fisheries Resources Conservation Act (available in English, 2 pages).
6. Description of content: <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. An international aquatic animal health certificate, issued by the competent authority of the exporting country, is required for the importation of aquatic animals which are listed in the Ministerial Ordinance. The diseases from which the competent authority of the exporting country must verify that imported aquatic animals is free include non OIE-listed diseases (ex. Koi Herpes Virus Disease).2. The Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries may order an importer to detain the imported aquatic animals if the certificate attached to the aquatic animals does not verify that they are free from diseases listed in the Ministerial Ordinance.3. A person who is ordered to detain the aquatic animals shall have the aquatic animals examined for a diagnosis when the person finds or suspects that the aquatic animals are infected with diseases listed in the Ministerial Ordinance. If the aquatic animals are proved to be infected with the diseases, the Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries may order the person to burn, bury or disinfect the aquatic animals.
7. Objective and rationale: [] food safety, [X] animal health, [] plant protection, [] protect humans from animal/plant pest or disease, [] protect territory from other damage from pests
8. International standard, guideline or recommendation: [] Codex Alimentarius Commission, [] World Organization for Animal Health (OIE), [] International Plant Protection Convention, [X] None If an international standard, guideline or recommendation exists, give the appropriate reference and briefly identify deviations: These proposed regulations are substantially the same as the content of the OIE "Aquatic Animal Health Code 2004"; however, Japan submits the notification only because the proposed rules possibly include several diseases which are not listed in the OIE "Aquatic Animal Health Code 2004".

9. Relevant documents and language(s) in which these are available: This draft law will appear in "KANPO" (Official Government Gazette) in Japanese when promulgated.
10. Proposed date of adoption: The date of promulgation (to be announced in the Official Government Gazette).
11. Proposed date of entry into force: The date within 6 months from promulgation (to be announced in the Official Government Gazette).
12. Final date for comments: 15 April 2005 Agency or authority designated to handle comments: <input type="checkbox"/> National notification authority, <input checked="" 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"/> National enquiry point, or address, fax number and E-mail address (if available) of other body: