

**NOTIFICATION**

<b>1. Member to Agreement notifying:</b> <u>CUBA</u> <b>If applicable, name of local government involved:</b>
<b>2. Agency responsible:</b> Ministry of Agriculture
<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> Eviscerated and uneviscerated fish, cultured fish stocks and wild fish stocks.
<b>4. Regions or countries likely to be affected, to the extent relevant or practicable:</b> All countries and regions trading these products with Cuba.
<b>5. Title, language and number of pages of the notified document:</b> <i>Requisitos para la importación de pescados a la República de Cuba</i> (Requirements for the importation of fish into the Republic of Cuba) (4 pages, in Spanish)
<b>6. Description of content:</b> Places where fish or fish products are produced in a country, a zone or an aquaculture establishment must be approved and monitored for export purposes by the official veterinary service and be subject to an official fish health surveillance scheme. The country, zone or aquaculture establishment involved must be free from the pathogens that cause the following diseases, as listed in the Aquatic Animal Health Code: epizootic haematopoietic necrosis, infectious haematopoietic necrosis, spring viraemia of carp, viral haemorrhagic septicaemia, infectious pancreatic necrosis, infectious salmon anaemia, epizootic ulcerative syndrome, bacterial kidney disease ( <i>Renibacterium salmoninarum</i> ), gyrodactylosis ( <i>Gyrodactylus salaris</i> ) and red sea bream iridoviral disease. Visual inspections must be carried out to detect any visible parasites. Places of production in a country, zone or aquaculture establishment must be officially authorized by the competent authorities of the exporting country.  The final product must comply with the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <u>Product identification</u> (eviscerated or uneviscerated; cultured or wild stock; species; scientific name; date of production; expiry date; packaging type; total weight (kg.) or number (x 100); and stamp or seal of the official veterinary service).</li><li>• <u>Product origin</u> (name and address of the establishment approved by the official veterinary service).</li><li>• <u>Product destination</u> (place of shipment; destination (country and place); nature and identification of means of transport; container and seal number; name and address of the consignor; and name and address of the consignee).</li></ul>

**6. Description of content:** (cont'd)

- Transport (under official seal in refrigerated vehicles adapted for this purpose which ensure conditions that prevent the deterioration, alteration or contamination of the products).

The official veterinary health certificate covering the export must contain the following: a description of the product, information on the origin and destination of the product, health certification reflecting the above-mentioned points, confirmation that the products are suitable for human consumption, and the name, signature and stamp or seal of the official veterinary service.

The product will be accompanied by a certificate of quality issued by the country of origin stating the results of the organoleptic analyses (dehydration, colour, smell, texture and taste), chemical analyses (total volatile basic nitrogen - TVB-N, total trimethylamine nitrogen - TMA-N, histamine - n-9 c-2 m-100 ppm and M-200 ppm, and contaminants - heavy metals and halogenated substances) and microbiological analyses (see table):

INDICATORS	Limits per g or ml			
	n	c	m	M
m.o. at 30 °C	5	2	10 <sup>5</sup>	10 <sup>6</sup>
Coliforms at 45 °C	5	2	0.3	2.1
<i>E. coli</i>	5	0	< 0.3	--
Salmonella in 25 g	5	0	0	--
Enteropathogen ( <i>Vibrio cholerae</i> )	5	0	0	--
<i>V. parahaemolyticus</i>	5	0	0	--

With regard to complaints/alerts, the official veterinary service of the exporting country must urgently inform the National Directorate of the Institute of Veterinary Medicine of the Republic of Cuba (*Dirección Nacional del Instituto de Medicina Veterinaria de la República de Cuba*), in the event of any outbreak in its territory of the diseases listed in the Aquatic Animal Health Code within three months of shipment of the products.

**7. Objective and rationale:**  food safety,  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,  None

**If an international standard, guideline or recommendation exists, give the appropriate reference and briefly identify deviations:**

**9. Relevant documents and language(s) in which these are available:** *Requisitos para la importación de pescados a la República de Cuba* (Requirements for the importation of fish into the Republic of Cuba) (4 pages, in Spanish)

<p><b>10. Proposed date of adoption:</b> The proposed requirements for the importation of fish into Cuba will be adopted after the close of the comment period.</p>
<p><b>11. Proposed date of entry into force:</b> Full entry into force after the close of the comment period.</p>
<p><b>12. Final date for comments:</b> 20 February 2006</p> <p><b>Agency or authority designated to handle comments:</b> <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:</p> <p>Instituto de Medicina Veterinaria Dirección Nacional, Calle 12 N° 355 entre 15 y 17 Ciudad Habana, Municipio Plaza de la Revolución, República de Cuba</p> <p>Fax: (537) 8303537</p> <p>E- mail: <a href="mailto:dnimv@infomed.sld.cu">dnimv@infomed.sld.cu</a>, <a href="mailto:rbescofet2002@hotmail.com">rbescofet2002@hotmail.com</a>, <a href="mailto:acere2@yahoo.es">acere2@yahoo.es</a></p>
<p><b>13. Texts available from:</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> National notification authority, <input type="checkbox"/> National enquiry point, or address, fax number and E-mail address (if available) of other body:</p> <p>Ministerio de Comercio Exterior Dirección de Organismos Internacionales, Calle Infanta No 16, esquina 23, Ciudad de la Habana, Municipio Plaza de la Revolución, República de Cuba</p> <p>Fax: (537)542266 E-mail: <a href="mailto:eva.quintana@mincex.cu">eva.quintana@mincex.cu</a></p> <p>Instituto de Medicina Veterinaria Dirección Nacional, Calle 12 No. 355 entre 15 y 17 Ciudad Habana, Municipio Plaza de la Revolución, República de Cuba</p> <p>Fax: (537) 8303537 E- mail: <a href="mailto:dnimv@infomed.sld.cu">dnimv@infomed.sld.cu</a>, <a href="mailto:rbescofet2002@hotmail.com">rbescofet2002@hotmail.com</a>, <a href="mailto:acere2@yahoo.es">acere2@yahoo.es</a></p>