

## **SAMPLE COLLECTION FOR MICROBIOLOGICAL AND CHEMICAL ANALYSES OF FISH AND FISHERY PRODUCTS**

The National Seafood Inspection Laboratory provides analytical services for verification purposes for the USDC Seafood Inspection Program. The USDC inspection and certification of product includes safety/quality criteria that are a critical part of the Program's functions. Periodic laboratory analyses through this surveillance technique are an additional method of maintaining assurances that the Program's participants meet the federal regulatory, importing country, and/or Program's requirements.

The purpose of bacteriological and chemical analyses is to provide a level of assurance regarding the absence or amount of certain possible hazards that may be associated with the identified lot of fish and fishery products.