

To: Interested Parties

10 June 2008

Reference: FIN 08/2008

Dear Sir or Madam

**FISHERY PRODUCTS FROM URUGUAY, AND POTENTIAL EU COMMISSION  
LEGISLATION FOR FISHERY PRODUCTS FROM INDONESIA & MALAYSIA**

At the 2-3 June meeting of the EU Standing Committee on Food Chain and Animal Health (SCoFCAH), a number of issues regarding fishery products were discussed. The purpose of this letter is to alert interested parties to the following proposals.

**a) Fishery products from Uruguay**

We wrote previously on 14 February 2008 (ref FIN 01/2008) regarding this matter and item b) of the letter referred to possible changes to the list of approved fishery products establishments in Uruguay. A further Food & Veterinary Office (FVO) mission to Uruguay in May 2008 found shortcomings are being addressed and the Commission have withdrawn their proposal to apply safeguard measures to Uruguay.

**b) Fishery products from Indonesia**

A further Decision is expected to amend Commission Decision 2006/236/EC on fishery products from Indonesia. We understand that the effect of the amendment will be to reduce the additional checks for heavy metals so that they no longer apply to aquaculture, and additional checks for histamines will cease.

**c) Fishery products from Malaysia**

The Commission advised that a recent FVO mission to Malaysia raised serious concerns about hygiene controls. A draft Decision implementing emergency measures suspending imports of fishery products is due to be discussed at a SCoFCAH meeting on 18 June. It is likely that these measures would come into force with immediate effect from then with no transitional period for products "on the water".

When these implementing measures are issued by the Commission, we will write again in the normal way.

The advice contained in this letter should not be taken as an authoritative statement of the law or its interpretation. The opinion of your Home Authority or other enforcement authorities may differ. Only the courts can decide whether in particular circumstances an offence has been committed.

I hope that this is helpful but if you need any further information please let me know. The Agency's imports section on our website can be found at <http://www.food.gov.uk/imports>

Importers may also register for the Agency's on-line Guidance and Regulatory Advice on Import Legislation system (GRAIL) by following this link: <https://grail.foodapps.co.uk/grail/general/home.aspx>

Yours sincerely

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Imported Food Branch  
Enforcement Support Division