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ARRANGEMENT ON FISHERY PRODUCTS QUALITY CONTROL AND FOOD SAFETY



NFQS

Between

THE NATIONAL FISHERY PRODUCTS QUALITY MANAGEMENT SERVICE OF THE MINISTRY OF OCEANS AND FISHERIES OF THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA And

THE NATIONAL AGRO-FORESTRY-FISHERIES QUALITY ASSURANCE DEPARTMENT OF THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT OF THE SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM

The National Fishery Products Quality Management Service(NFQS) of the Ministry of Oceans and Fisheries (MOF) of the Republic of Korea and the National Agro-Forestry-Fisheries Quality Assurance Department (NAFIQAD) of the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (MARD) of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam (hereinafter referred to as "the two Sides"),

Desiring to strengthen mutual cooperation on quality and food safety of fishery products between the two Sides,

Have reached the following arrangement:

Paragraph 1

The two Sides will support and develop the cooperation in the fields of quality control, food safety of fishery products on the basis of equality and mutual benefit, in accordance with the relevant laws and regulations of the two countries.

Paragraph 2

The two Sides will cooperate through, inter alia, the followings:

- 1. Exchanges of information regarding development and enforcement of legislation on quality and safety control in the production and placing on the market of fishery products and in the border control of fishery products for import and export;
- 2. Study tours in the country of the other side to facilitate the exchange of information and knowledge between leaders and experts of both sides;
- 3. Monitoring of hygiene conditions in the production and placing on the market of bivalve mollusks;
- 4. Monitoring of residues of certain harmful substances in aquaculture animals and products thereof; and

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5. Development and implementation of mutually recognized procedures for inspection and certification of fishery products traded between the two countries.

Paragraph 3

The application of this Arrangement will be limited to:

- 1. Raw fishery products for human consumption, except live aquatic animals; and
- 2. Aquatic animals and plants that were processed such as cut, heated, matured, dried, salted or brined without using food additives or other materials.

Paragraph 4

The two Sides endeavor to:

- 1. Provide each other with updated information on its legislations and regulation regarding the quality and safety control of the processes of production and placing on the market of fishery products for import and export. Any revision and supplementation to the legislation concerning the border control of fishery products for import and export will be informed immediately to the other side in expeditious methods such as e-mail or tele-fax;
- 2. Consult each other to solve differences in border control regulations, and to develop a standard procedure for the issuance of inspection certificates or certificates of laboratory test results for fishery products to be exported to the country of the other Side, based on the provisions on obligatory border control of food/ fishery products of the CODEX, and international treaties;
- 3. Conduct thorough inspections of the hygiene conditions and food safety of fishery products processing establishments that are registered in competent authority of exporting country (hereinafter referred to as "the registered establishment") to export their products to the country of the other side in order to assure the full implementation of their respective regulations on the quality control and food safety;
- 4. The importing country will annually inspect the registered establishment in subparagraph 3 above in order to assure the implementation of the sanitary control standard, and the exporting country shall provide the relevant information such as inspection methods, sanitary inspections and monitoring result of fishery products of the exporting country in order to facilitate the inspection process by the importing country;
- 5. Exporting country will periodically (each quarter) inform the other Side of the details (name, address and approval number) of the registered establishment, and provide prompt notice of the registered establishment which are suspended from exporting fishery products to the country of other side due to non-compliance with the regulations on the quality control and food safety. The notice shall indicate also the inspection results of suspended products;

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- 6. Assure quality and safety of fishery products exported to the country of the other Side:
 - a. Vietnamese fishery products intended for export to Korea:
 - (i) must be processed by the registered establishment of Vietnam
- (ii) must be accompanied by health certificate issued by NAFIQAD in order to ensure the inspection was conducted in accordance with Korean regulations.
- (iii) Especially, Vietnamese puffer fish/blow fish must be inspected and certified by NAFIQAD according to specific conditions in the Appendix and the health certificate shall include name, address of the registered establishment and type of products.
 - b. Korean fishery products intended for export to Vietnam:
 - (i) must be processed by the registered establishment of Korea
- (ii) must be accompanied by health certificate issued by NFQS in order to ensure the inspection was conducted in accordance with Vietnamese regulations.
- 7. Ensure that, in accordance with the relevant laws and regulations of the two countries, the inspection of the fishery consignments exported and imported between the two countries can be substituted with the written document of inspection certificates or certification of laboratory test results issued by such authorized agencies as described in the subparagraph 6 above;
- 8. Notify the other Side as to the reason for each detention of imports of fishery consignment from the country of the other Side, whenever possible;
- 9. Establish and operate a Rapid Alert System between the two Sides to provide swift warning of any fishery consignment violating the regulations on the quality and food safety;
- 10. Cooperate in study tours in the country of the other Side with participation of leaders and/or experts in order to exchange knowledge and experience on management and control of the quality and safety of fishery products;
- 11. Establish a cooperative program to improve the training for analyzing food quality and safety criteria, and applying the best laboratory practices based on ISO/IEC 10725 and realizing a programme incorporating the split sample method of mutual verification of testing results; *and*
- 12. Establish a cooperative program to develop and implement a monitoring program for the hygiene condition of bivalve mollusks production and for the residues control of certain harmful substances in aquaculture animals and the products.

Paragraph 5

Information such as the product name, country name, name and registration code of the registered establishment shall be printed or marked on packages of fishery products of the exporting sides in indelible manner.

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Paragraph 6

Based on the case of food safety problem found in imported products, the importing side may suspend importation of the fishery products produced, processed and packaged at the same processing establishments until the problems is completely resolved. Suspension may be lifted with the consent of the two Sides.

Paragraph 7

For the purpose of furthering cooperation to develop science and technology in the fields of quality, food safety and inspection of fishery products, the two Sides endeavor to:

- 1. exchange information on scientific technology and research in the fields of quality, food safety and inspection of fishery products.
- 2. develop joint research projects for scientific activities.
- 3. hold workshops, seminars and conference to promote capacity building for each Sides.
- 4. exchange experts and support for education and training of inspectors and researchers.

Paragraph 8

The Side sending officials and/or experts to the country of the other Side will bear the expenses of travel and accommodation.

Paragraph 9

This arrangement will not prejudice the rights and obligations of the other Side as defined in agreements and treaties concluded with any third country.

Paragraph 10

- 1. This Arrangement will enter into force on June 1st, 2014, remain in force an initial duration of five (5) years, and continue in force thereafter for subsequent periods of five (5) years unless either side notifies the other side in writing six (6) months in advance of its intention to terminate it.
- 2. This Arrangement may be revised or amended by mutual consent of the two Sides.
- 3. This Arrangement will replace the Arrangement signed by the National Fisheries Products Quality Inspection Service of the Ministry of Maritime Affairs and Fisheries of the Republic of Korea and the National Fisheries Quality Assurance and Veterinary Directorate of the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam on November 14th, 2007 in Hanoi, Vietnam.

Done in quadruplicate in Hanoi, Vietnam on December 2nd, 2013 in English language, four (4) copies being equally authentic: two (2) for NFQS, two (2) for NAFIQAD.

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For the National Fishery Products
Quality Management Service(NFQS)
under the Ministry of Oceans and
Fisheries of the Republic of Korea

For the National Agro-Forestry-Fisheries Quality Assurance Department (NAFIQAD) under the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development of the Socialist Republic of

Vietnam

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APPENDIX

Special conditions for importing puffers products into Republic of Korea

(1) The kinds of puffers that It will be able to imported.

No.	Scientific name
1	Fugu niphobles, Takifugu niphobles
2	Fugu poecilonotus, Takifugu poecilonotus
3	Fugu pardalis, Takifugu pardalis
4	Fugu vermicularis vermicularis, Takifugu vermicularis snyderi
5	Fugu vermicularis porphyreus, Takifugu porphyreus
6	Fugu obscurus, Takifugu obscurus
7	Fugu chrysops, Takifugu chrysops
8	Fugu rubripes rubripes, Takifugu rubripes
9	Fugu rubripes chinensis, Takifugu rubripes chinensis
10	Fugu xanthopterus, Takifugu xanthopterus
11	Logocephalus inermis
12	Logocephalus wheeleri
13	Logocephalus gloveri
14	Sphoeroides pachygaster, Liosaccus pachygaster
15	Fugu flavidus, Takifugu flavidus
16	Chilomycterus affinis
17	Diodon holocanthus
18	Diodon liturosus
19	Diodon hystrix
20	Ostracion cubicus
21	Fugu, Takifugu

- (2) Type of imports: Live, fresh, chilled and frozen.
 - Raw puffers that did not processed.
 - Puffers that will be able to find the kinds of it by only eviscerating without other process.
- (3) Provide that imported puffer accompanied with the certificate of country-of-origin which it to declare or certify that the puffer was caught from the East sea or sea area of Bohai or Yellow sea or Eastern sea, may be exempted from the test of tetrodotoxin when the puffer consignment is classified into the Document inspection or Organoleptic inspection.

Also, the certificate of country-of-origin shall be certified the scientific name and the area of catch by the government agency or approved agency by the government of exporting country.

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