

Commission Decision 97/102/EC laying down special conditions governing the import of fishery and aquaculture products originating in Russia

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THE COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,
Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Community,
Having regard to Council Directive 91/493/EEC of 22 July 1991 laying down the health conditions for the production and the placing on the market of fishery products (1), as last amended by Directive 95/71/EC (2), and in particular Article 11 thereof,
Whereas a group of Commission experts has conducted an inspection visit to Russia to verify the conditions under which fishery products are produced, stored and dispatched to the Community;
Whereas the provisions of legislation in Russia on health inspection and monitoring of fishery products may be considered equivalent to those laid down in Directive 91/493/EEC;
Whereas the Committee of Fisheries of the Russian Federation has the responsibility to draw up the list of establishments, factory vessels and freezer vessels approved for the export of fishery products to the European Union, and has delegated to the State Committee for Sanitary and Epidemiological Surveillance (Goskomsanepidnadzor) the responsibility for the health inspections and for monitoring the conditions of hygiene and cleanliness pertaining to production;
Whereas, pursuant to Article 11 (4) (b) of Directive 91/493/EEC, a mark should be affixed to packages of fishery products, giving the name of the third country and the approval number of the establishment, factory vessel and freezer vessel of origin;
Whereas, pursuant to Article 11 (4) (c) of Directive 91/493/EEC, a list of approved establishments, factory vessels, and freezer vessels must be drawn up; whereas that list must be drawn up on the basis of a communication from the Committee of Fisheries to the Commission; whereas it is therefore for the Committee of Fisheries to ensure compliance with the provisions laid down to that end in Article 11 (4) of Directive 91/493/EEC;
Whereas the Committee of Fisheries has provided official assurances regarding compliance with the rules set out in Chapter V of the Annex to Directive 91/493/EEC and regarding fulfilment of requirements equivalent to those laid down by that Directive for the approval of establishments, factory vessels and freezer vessels;
Whereas the Commission Decision 96/192/EC of 19 February 1996 laying down special conditions for the import of preserved fishery products originating in Russia (3);
Whereas the measures provided for in this Decision are in accordance with the opinion of the Standing Veterinary Committee,
HAS ADOPTED THIS DECISION:

Article 1

The Committee of Fisheries of the Federation of Russia, assisted by the State Committee for Sanitary and Epidemiological Surveillance (Goskomsanepidnadzor) shall be the competent authority in Russia for verifying and certifying compliance of fishery products with the requirements of Directive 91/493/EEC.

Article 2

Fishery and aquaculture products originating in Russia must meet the following conditions:

1. each consignment must be accompanied by a numbered original health certificate, duly completed, signed, dated and comprising a single sheet in accordance with the model set out in Annex A hereto;
2. the products must come from approved establishments, factory vessels or freezer vessels listed in Annex B hereto;

3. except in the case of frozen fishery products in bulk and intended for the manufacture of preserved foods, all packages must bear the word 'Russia' and the approval number of the establishment, factory vessel or freezer vessel of origin in indelible letters.

Article 3

1. The certificate referred to in point 1 of Article 2 must be drawn up in at least one official language of the Member State where the checks are carried out.
2. Certificates must bear the name, capacity and signature of the representative of the State Committee for Sanitary and Epidemiological Surveillance (Goskomsanepidnadzor) and the latter's official stamp in a colour different from that of other endorsements.

Article 4

Commission Decision 96/192/EC is repealed.

Article 5

This Decision shall apply from 31 January 1997.

Article 6

This Decision is addressed to the Member States.

Done at Brussels, 16 January 1997.

For the Commission

Franz FISCHLER

Member of the Commission

(1) OJ No L 268, 24. 9. 1991, p. 15.

(2) OJ No L 332, 30. 12. 1995, p. 40.

(3) OJ No L 61, 12. 3. 1996, p. 37.

ANNEX A

HEALTH CERTIFICATE

for fishery or aquaculture products originating in Russia and intended for export to the European Community with the exception of bivalve molluscs, echinoderms, tunicates and marine gastropods in any form

Reference No: Country of dispatch: RUSSIA

Competent authority: Committee of Fisheries of the Russian Federation

Inspection service: The State Committee for Sanitary and Epidemiological Surveillance (Goskomsanepidnadzor)

I. Details identifying the products

Description of fishery or aquaculture product (1): - species (scientific name): - presentation of product (2) and type of treatment: Code number (where available): Type of packaging: Number of packages: Net weight: Requisite storage and transport temperature: II. Origin of products Name(s) and official approval number(s) of establishment(s), factory vessel(s) or freezer vessel(s) approved by the Committee of Fisheries of the Russian Federation for exports to the European Community:

III. Destination of products

The products are dispatched from: (place of dispatch)

to: (country and place of destination)

by the following means of transport: Name and address of dispatcher: Name of consignee and address at place of destination: (1) Delete where inapplicable.

(2) Live, refrigerated, frozen, salted, smoked, preserved, etc.

IV. Health attestation

The official inspector hereby certifies that the fishery and aquaculture products specified above:

1. were caught and handled on board vessels in accordance with the health rules laid down by Directive 92/48/EEC;
2. were landed, handled and where appropriate packaged, prepared, processed, frozen, thawed and stored hygienically in compliance with the requirements laid down in Chapters II, III and IV of the Annex to Directive 91/493/EEC;
3. have undergone health controls in accordance with Chapter V of the Annex to Directive 91/493/EEC;
4. are packaged, marked, stored and transported in accordance with Chapters VI, VII and VIII of the Annex to Directive 91/493/EEC;
5. do not come from toxic species or species containing biotoxins;
6. have satisfactorily undergone the organoleptic, parasitological, chemical and microbiological checks laid down for certain categories of fishery products by Directive 91/493/EEC and in the implementing decisions thereto;

The undersigned official inspector hereby declares that he is aware of the provisions of Directives 91/493/EEC and 92/48/EEC.

Done at ,

(place)

(date)

Official

seal (1)

(signature of official inspector)

(name in capital letters, capacity
and qualifications of person signing) (1)

(1) The colour of the stamp and signature must be different from that of the other particulars in the certificate.