

Brussels Weekly Update - 21/02/2018

FISHERIES & AQUACULTURE, TRADE AND FOOD SAFETY ISSUES

- [FVO audit report on Vietnam unveils lack of controls on brine frozen tuna destined for canning industry](#). Source FVO.

This report describes the outcome of an audit in Vietnam carried out from 20 to 29 June 2017 to assess whether the official controls put in place and implemented by the competent authorities can provide acceptable guarantees that fishery products destined for the EU meet the applicable EU requirements. The audit established that brine frozen tuna which it should be destined for the canning industry (either imported into Vietnam or from own primary production) is exported as fresh/frozen tuna intended for direct sale to the consumer. In addition, shortcomings were identified as regards the implementation of controls over, and enforcement of, requirements concerning the hygienic storage of fishery products, in particular at processing establishments.

- [India: Quality control lab for seafood opened in BBSR](#). Source The Pioneer.

A new control laboratory fully equipped to check traces of antibiotics in shrimps and other marine products was inaugurated this Monday in Odisha, India. The laboratory would address concerns of the USA, Japan and the European Union (EU) for stringent quality controls over exports of seafood from India.

- [Update on EU/US agreement on live bivalve molluscs](#). European Commission.

On the occasion of the Standing Committee on plants, animals, food and feed held in Brussels on 01 February 2018 the Commission gave an update on EU/US agreement on bivalve molluscs. The Commission is working in parallel with the US on the administrative steps to finalise the mutual authorisation of exports of bivalve molluscs by second half 2018. As a first step two Member States (The Netherlands and Spain) will be allowed to export bivalve molluscs to the US and two US States (Washington State and Massachusetts) to the EU. Further States from US and Member States will be allowed to export without a compulsory on the spot audit but on the basis of a desk analysis.

- [Commission Implementing Decision \(EU\) 2018/233 of 15 February 2018 on the approval of plans submitted by third countries in accordance with Article 29 of Council Directive 96/23/EC](#). Source European Commission.

Zimbabwe is currently included in the list for aquaculture and farmed game. However, Zimbabwe has not provided a plan as required by Article 29 of Directive 96/23/EC and has declared that residue testing is not currently being carried out and it is not expected to be implemented, and that export of aquaculture to the EU could no longer take place. The entries for Zimbabwe concerning aquaculture and farmed game should therefore be deleted from the list. Zimbabwe has been informed accordingly.

Agendas:

- [Standing Committee on Plants, Animals, Food and Feed. Section Import Controls](#). 28/02/2018 - 01/03/2018.
- [Codex Committee on contaminants in food](#). 12/03/2018.

Useful links:

- [Commission Delegated Regulation \(EU\) 2018/211 of 21 November 2017 establishing a discard plan as regards salmon in the Baltic Sea](#).
- [The Use of the EU's Free Trade Agreements Exporter and Importer Utilization of Preferential Tariffs](#) (National Board of Trade Sweden and the UNCTAD)
- [71st Meeting of the SPS Committee Communication from the World Organisation for animal health \(OIE\)](#).
- [Aquaculture - Overview for the EU: in-depth analysis study](#).

- [The impact of the EU IUU Regulation on seafood trade flows.](#)
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Events:

- [8th Annual European Food Sure Summit.](#) 16 - 18 April 2018. Amsterdam