

codex alimentarius commission



FOOD AND AGRICULTURE
ORGANIZATION
OF THE UNITED NATIONS



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Agenda Item 10

CX/FFP 00/10

JOINT FAO/WHO FOOD STANDARDS PROGRAMME

CODEX COMMITTEE ON FISH AND FISHERY PRODUCTS

Twenty-fourth Session
Ålesund, Norway, 5-9 June 2000

MODEL CERTIFICATE FOR FISH AND FISHERY PRODUCTS

Paper Prepared by Canada and Norway

BACKGROUND

At the Twenty-second Session (May, 1996) of the Codex Committee on Fish and Fishery Products (CCFFP)¹, it was agreed that the Committee would proceed with the development of a draft model certificate for fish and fishery products, recognizing the fact that a generic certificate would not address all the issues related to import/export control and that equivalency agreements established among countries may provide an option of reducing the need for certificates. The Delegations of Norway and Canada were tasked with preparing a draft model certificate for discussion.

At the Twenty-third Session (June, 1998) of the CCFFP², the Delegations of Norway and Canada introduced a discussion paper expressing some ideas for consideration in the draft model certificate. The Committee generally agreed that considerations should be given to have the certificate recognize the competent authority, identify the processing establishment by name or by code, the name of the exporter, the production conditions and the destination of the lot. Other issues which were addressed included its scope, and the type of attestations used on the certificate to indicate conformance to the exporting or importing country's requirements or other international requirements. These issues require clarification or resolution by the CCFFP before the model certificate can be finalized.

Following the recommendation of the Twenty-third Session of the CCFFP which recognized the work undertaken by the CCFICS on the Proposed Draft Guidelines and Criteria for a Generic Official Certificate Format and Rules Relating to the Production and Issuance of Certificates, and to keep the CCFICS informed of the progress of the CCFFP, a draft model "sanitary" certificate and a draft model "inspection" certificate and examples of addendum statements have been given as a Conference Room Document³ at the Seventh Session of the CCFICS.

At the Seventh Session (Feb. 1999) of the CCFICS⁴, the Committee agreed to request the Delegations of the United Kingdom and Australia to re-draft the Guidelines in the light of the views expressed in the present discussion and in the Conference Room Documents with a view towards circulating the text formally for comments at Step 3 of the Codex Procedure and consideration at its next Session

At the Eighth Session (Feb. 2000) of the CCFICS⁵ the Committee agreed to forward the Proposed Draft Guidelines for Generic Official Certificate Formats and the Production and Issuance of Certificates (Alinorm 01/30, Appendix II) to the Forty-seventh Session of the Executive Committee for adoption at Step 5. The

¹ Alinorm 97/18, Para 6 - 8

² Alinorm 99/18, Para 97 - 101

³ CRD 7 (Alinorm 99/30A) - Draft Model Certificate for Fish and Fishery Products prepared by Canada and Norway on behalf of the CCFFP (Seventh Session of the CCFICS, 1999)

⁴ Alinorm 99/30A, Para 68

⁵ Alinorm 01/30, Para 33 - 49

Committee further agreed that a drafting group under the direction of Australia and the United Kingdom, with the participation of Canada, France, India, the Netherlands, New Zealand, South Africa, the United States and the European Commission, would review comments submitted during the current discussions of the Committee as well as comments submitted at Step 6 subsequent to CCEXEC adoption with a view towards the consideration of an amended text at the Committee's Ninth Session. In the interests of transparency, all comments submitted at Step 6 by the due date would be reproduced in their entirety in the working paper to be prepared for the next meeting.

In taking this decision, the Committee agreed to inform the Forty-seventh Session of the Executive Committee that the following issues in particular remain under consideration –provisions concerning electronic certification, the two proposals contained in the paragraph 14 in the Draft Guidelines, the boundaries between official/officially recognized certification bodies and other agencies in light of the wide range of certification presently used to facilitate trade and definitions for additional terms (para 40 - 41 in the Final Report of the Eighth Session of CCFICS - Alinorm 01/30).

CONCLUSION

As the CCFICS is working with Guidelines and Criteria and not with specific model certificates, the Committee expressed that the presented draft models certificates would not be commented upon. However the CCFICS recognized the work undertaken by CCFFP concerning certificates as long as it complied with the Draft Guidelines.

The draft model sanitary certificate and draft model inspection certificate have taken into account the structure and elements of the Proposed Draft Guidelines. The draft models have been discussed both at the Twenty-second and Twenty-third Sessions of CCFFP without any major changes of the draft models. The models should therefore be ready towards circulating formally for comments at further steps of the Codex Procedure.

**PROPOSED DRAFT MODEL SANITARY CERTIFICATE
covering Fish and Fishery Products**

Reference number: _____

Country of dispatch:	Tel:
Competent authority:	Fax:
Inspection body:	E-mail: (optional)

I. Details identifying the fishery products

Description - Species (scientific name):	Approval no. of Establishment:	State or type of processing:	Type of packaging:	Lot identifier/ date coding	Number of packages:	Net weight:
<i>Sum:</i>						

Temperature required during storage and transport: _____ °C

II. Provenance of the fishery products

Name and address of consignor: _____

III. Destination of the fishery products

The fishery products are to be dispatched from: _____
(Place of dispatch)

to: _____
(Place and country of destination)

by the following means of transport: _____

Name of consignee and address at place of destination: _____

IV. Attestation

The undersigned official inspector hereby certifies that at the time of inspection:

- 1) The products described above originate from (an) approved establishment(s) and
- 2) have been handled, prepared or processed, identified, stored and transported under a competent HACCP- and sanitary programme consistently implemented and in accordance with the requirements laid down in Codex Alimentarius' Recommended International Code of Practice for Fish and Fishery Products, CAC/RCP xx-xxxx.

Done
at _____ on _____ 200____
(Place) (Date)

Sealⁱ _____

¹The signature and the stamp must be in a colour different to that of the printing.

(Signature of official inspector)

(Name and official position in capitals)

**PROPOSED DRAFT MODEL INSPECTION CERTIFICATE
covering Salted Atlantic Herring**

Reference number: _____

Country of dispatch: Competent authority: Inspection body:	Tel: Fax: E-mail: (optional)
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I. Details identifying the products

Description – Species (scientific name):	Approval no. of Establishment:	State or type of processing:	Type of packaging:	Lot identifier/ date coding	Number of packages:	Net weight:
<i>Sum:</i>						

Temperature required during storage and transport: _____ °C

II. Provenance of the products

Name and address of consignor:

III. Destination of the products

The products are to be dispatched from:

(Place of dispatch)

to:

(Place and country of destination)

by _____ the _____ following _____ means _____ of
transport: _____

Name of consignee and address at place of destination:

IV. Attestation

The undersigned official inspector hereby certifies that at the time of inspection:

- 1) The products described above originate from (an) approved establishment(s) and
- 2) have been handled, prepared or processed, identified, stored and transported under a competent HACCP- and sanitary programme consistently implemented and in accordance with the requirements laid down in Codex Alimentarius' Recommended International Code of Practice for Fish and Fishery Products, CAC/RCP xx-xxxx, and
- 3) comply with Codex Alimentarius' Standard for Salted Atlantic Herring, CODEX STAN xx-xxxx.

Done at _____ on _____ 200____
(Place) (Date)

Sealⁱⁱ

(Signature¹ of official inspector) (Name and official position in capitals)

The signature and the stamp must be in a colour different to that of the printing.

(LOGO)

(COUNTRY)

(NAME OF COMPETENT AUTHORITY)

STATEMENT CONCERNING RADIOACTIVITY LEVEL IN FISH

ISSUED BY THE "NATIONAL QUALITY CONTROL SERVICE FOR FISH AND FISHERY PRODUCTS"

As Addendum to Sanitary Certificate no.:

One of the main tasks of the National Fish Inspection and Quality Control Service" is to guarantee the wholesomeness and good quality of fish and fish products exported from (country).

The level of radioactive caesium 134 and caesium 137 in fish of commercial value is monitored by the "Competent Authority". The monitoring programme started in (year) and in no instances the level of radioactivity has been found to exceed the natural background level.

The detection limit for this analysis is 20 Bq/kg for caesium 134 and caesium 137 combined.

Measurements performed by the National Radiation Protection Authority revealed that radioactive Iodine 131 could not be detected.

(Name of Inspection Body)

(Sign.)

NN

Director General of "Inspection Body"

(Sign.)

XX

Laboratory manager

Issued:.....,199....

Place

Date

Seal

Signature of Official Inspector

(LOGO)

(COUNTRY)

(NAME OF COMPETENT AUTHORITY)

STATEMENT CONCERNING TRACE METALS IN SAITHE
(Pollachius virens)

ISSUED BY THE "NATIONAL QUALITY CONTROL SERVICE FOR FISH AND FISHERY PRODUCTS"

As addendum to Sanitary Certificate no.: _____

One of the main tasks of the "National Quality Control Service" is to guarantee the wholesomeness and good quality of fish and fishery products exported from (country).

To this end, chemical, physical, microbiological and sensory analyses are performed.

Chemical analyses of the following trace metals have been performed for saithe, all values are in milligrams per kg wet weight:

Hg, mercury	0.02 - 0.12	Cd, cadmium	< 0.001
Pb, lead	< 0.04		

These concentrations represent normal values for fish caught in national waters. It will be seen that all values are low, and well below permissible concentrations for those trace metals where limiting values have been given by international regulating bodies.

(Name of Inspection Body)

(Sign.)

NN

Director General of "Inspection Body"

(Sign.)

XX

Laboratory Manager

Issued:.....,199....

Place

Date

Seal

Signature of Official Inspector

⊞ The signature and the stamp must be in a colour different to that of the printing.