



General Structure and Constituents of the European Food Legislation



**Seminar on Fisheries and aquaculture in the European Union
The common organisation of the markets**

Brussels 12/10/2010

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Food Hygiene, Alert System and Training**

Important principles:



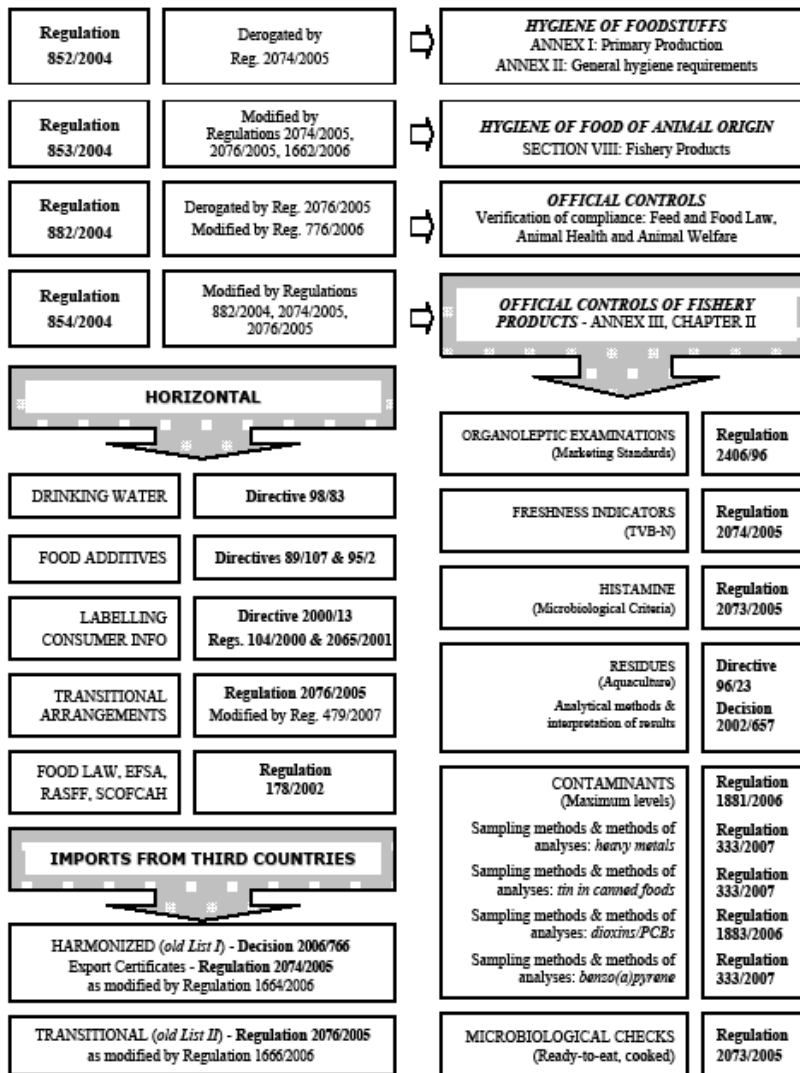
Whole chain approach

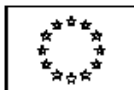
Not only rely on end product testing



EC LEGISLATION - FISHERY PRODUCTS / PUBLIC HEALTH

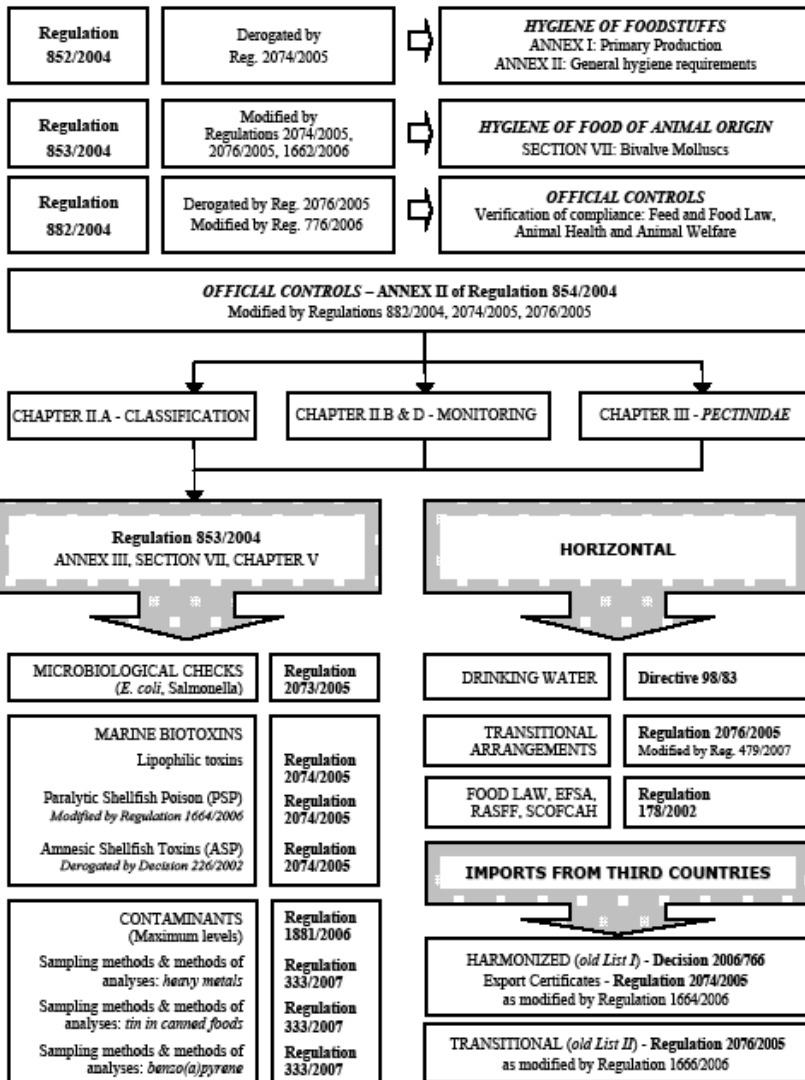
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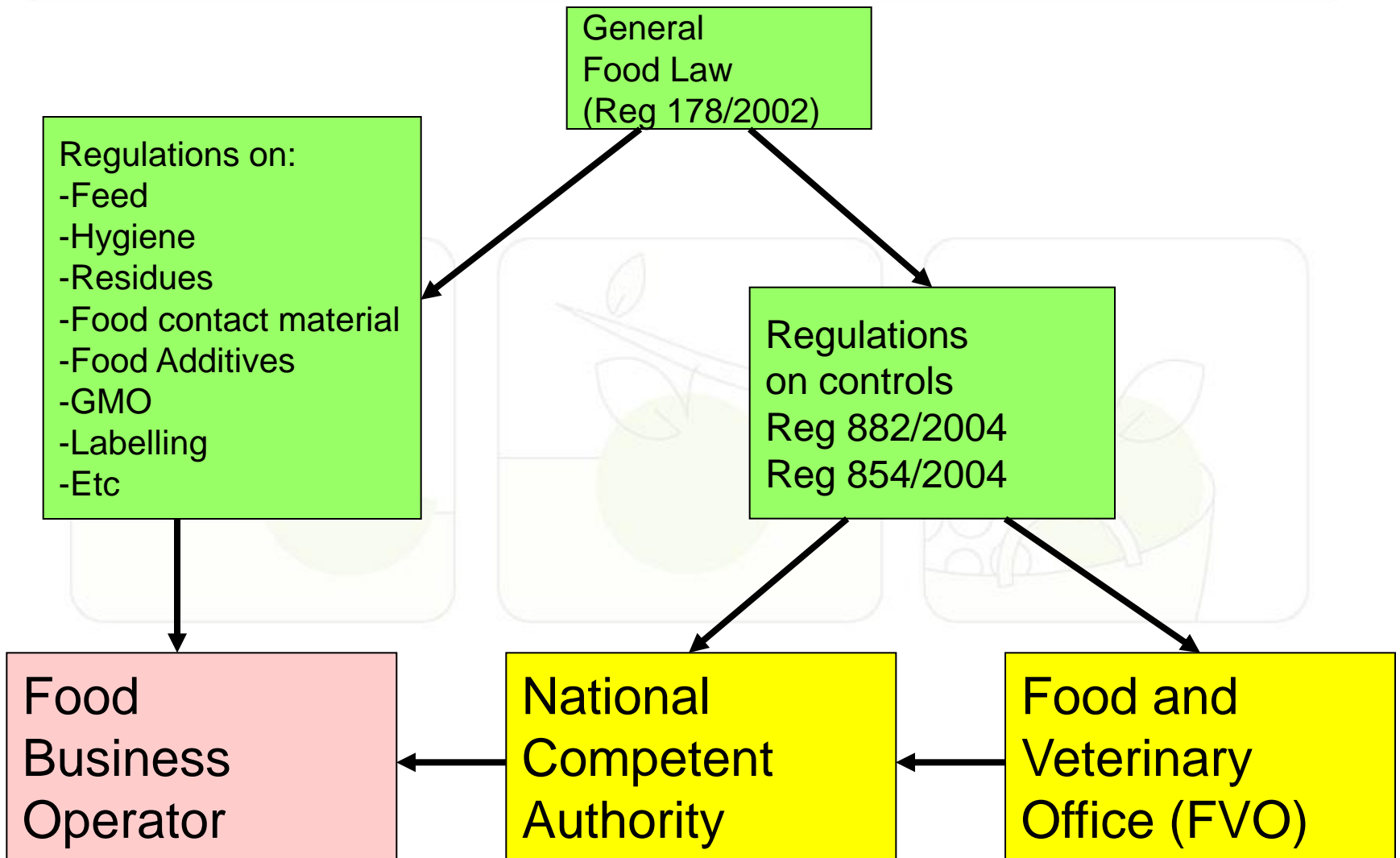




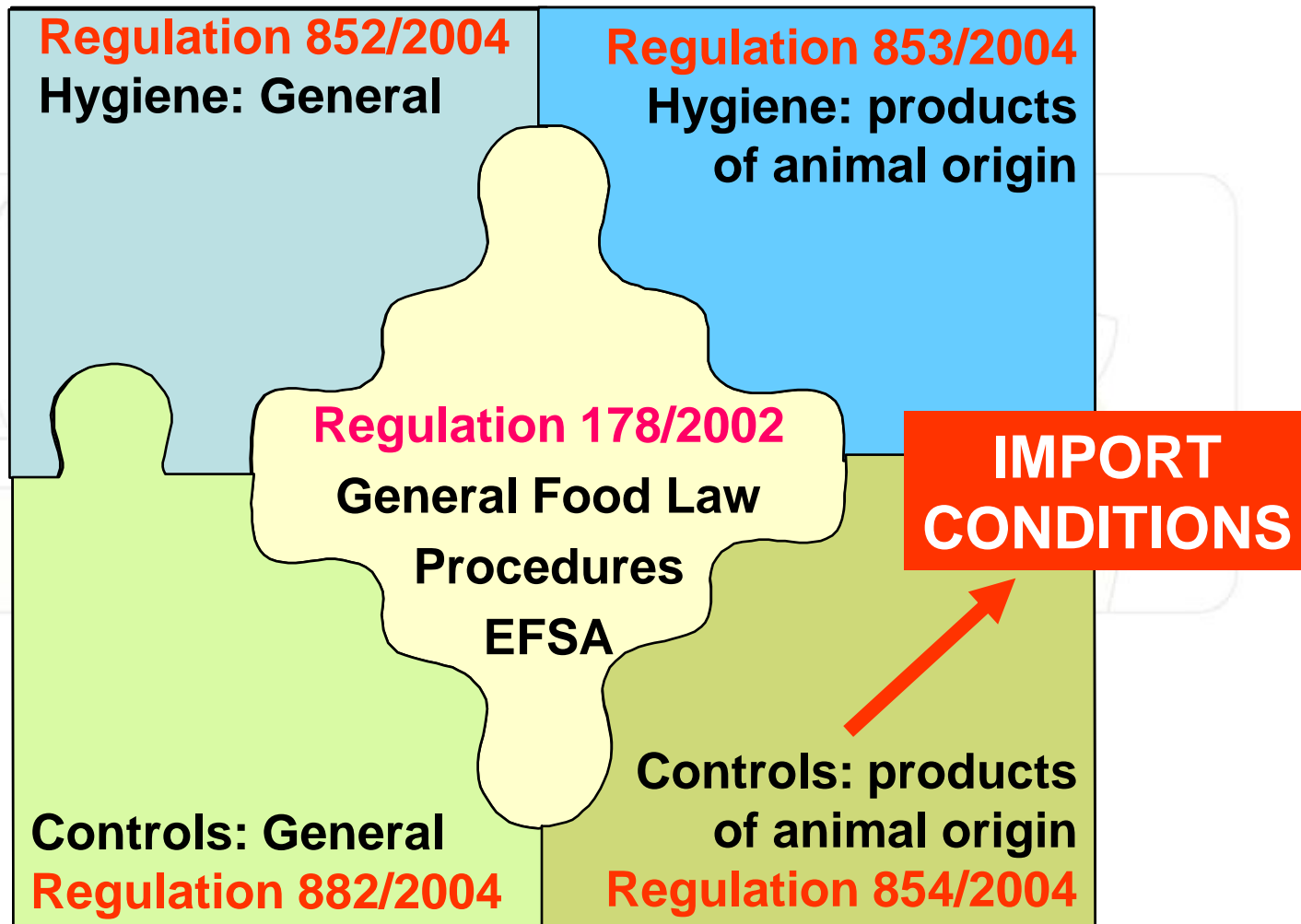
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EC Regulatory Framework



General Food Law (Regulation 178/2002)

General Principles of
the Food Law
(Art. 5 2002/178)

- **High level of protection of consumers**
- **Fair practices** in food trade taking account of, where appropriate, the protection of **animal health and welfare**, plant health and the environment
- Free movement of food in the Community
- **Risk analysis**
- **International standards** taken into consideration, except if ineffective or inappropriate for fulfilment of objectives of food law and with a scientific justification
- **Responsibility of food operators/producers**
- **Traceability**

Regulation 882/2004 on official controls performed to ensure the verification of compliance with feed and food law, animal health and animal welfare rules

- Exclusively for Competent Authorities
- Multi-annual control plans
- Inspections must be carried out according to documented procedures
- Inspections must be planned/implemented according to risk
- Sets requirements for the delegation of specific tasks
- Sets requirements for sampling procedures, designation of official laboratories and import controls
- Training for food inspectors

Regulation 852/2004

«on the hygiene of foodstuffs »

- Hygiene objectives and requirements for all food business operators and food establishments
- Makes the use of procedures based on **HACCP principles** mandatory (except for primary production)
- Encourages the use of **guides of good practices** written by operators and validated by the Competent Authority
- Registration (or approval) of all food business

Regulation 853/2004 « laying down specific hygiene rules for food of animal origin »

- Supplements Regulation 852/2004 for products of animal origin
- **Annex 1:** Definitions
- **Annex 2:** identification marking, HACCP procedures for establishments and food chain information
- **Annexe 3 :** specific requirements – by section – to different categories of products of animal origin
 - **Section 7 : Live Bivalve Molluscs, etc**
 - **Section 8 : Fishery products**

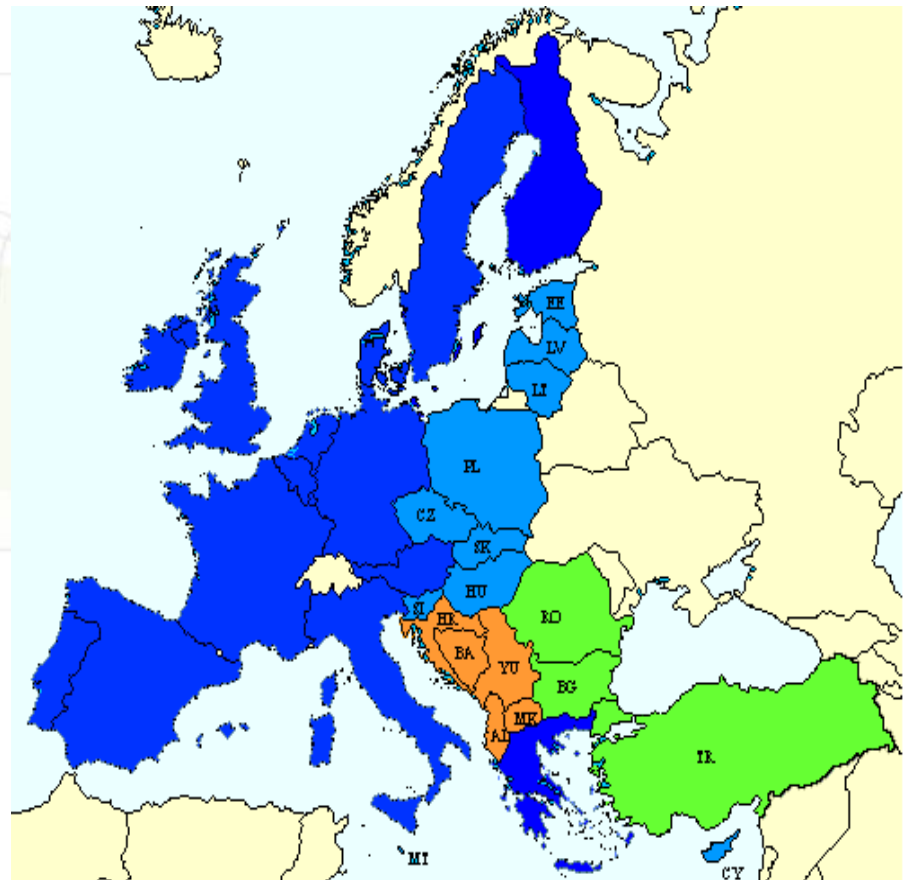
Regulation 854/2004 « laying down specific rules for the organisation of official controls on products of animal origin intended for human consumption »

- Exclusively for **Competent Authorities**
- Supplement **Reg. 882/2004**
and control of establishments submitted to Reg **853/2004**
- Requirements for the listing of **Third Countries**
- **Requirements for the approval (listing) of establishments**
- Annexes for specific controls
 - **Annex II** for specific controls for **Live Bivalve Molluscs**
 - **Annex III** for specific controls **Fishery products**

Import From Third Countries

Food and feed imported to the Community... shall comply with the relevant requirements of food law or conditions recognised by the Community to be at least equivalent... with requirements contained therein.

**Regulation 178/2002/EC
(Food Law) Art. 11**

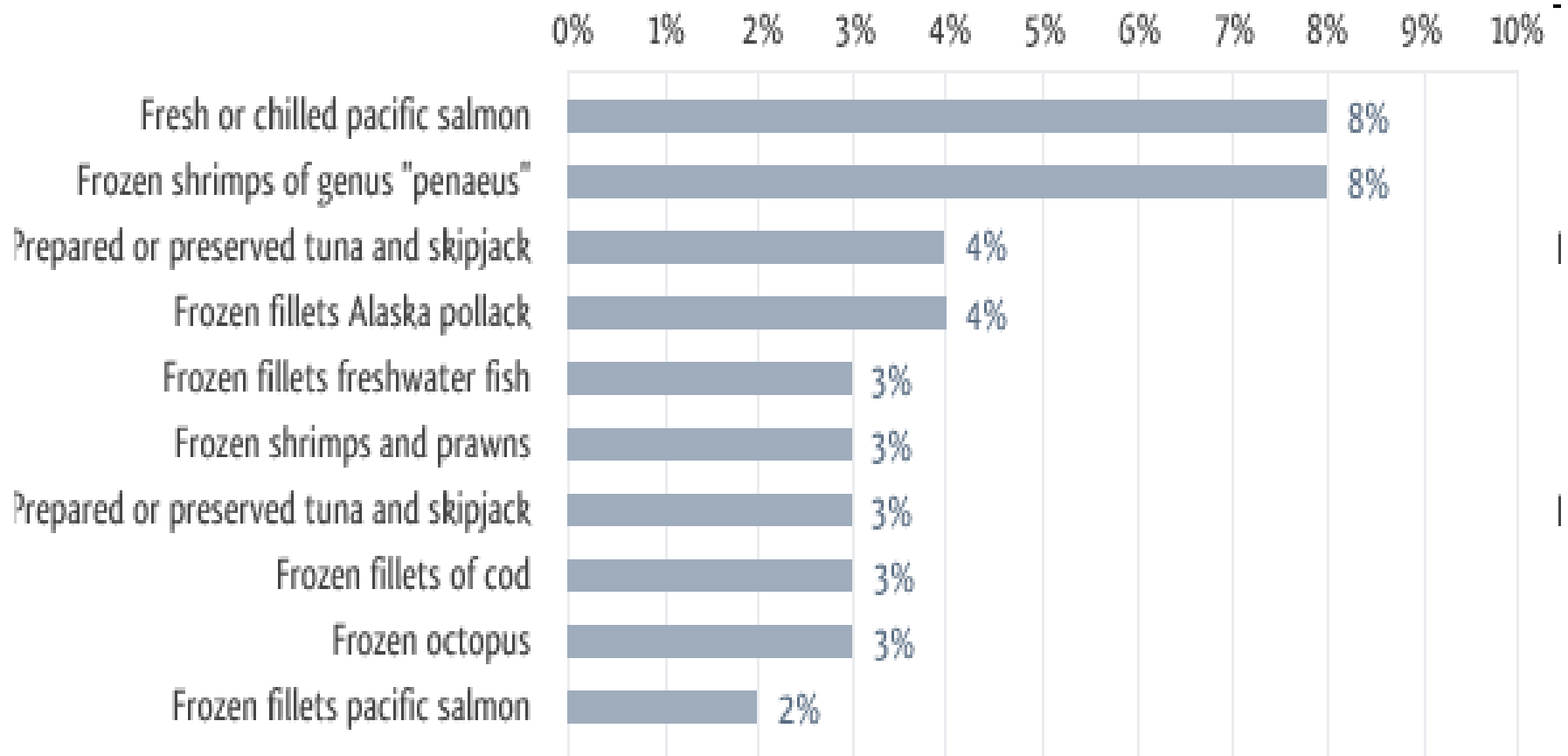


Top countries exporting seafood to the EC

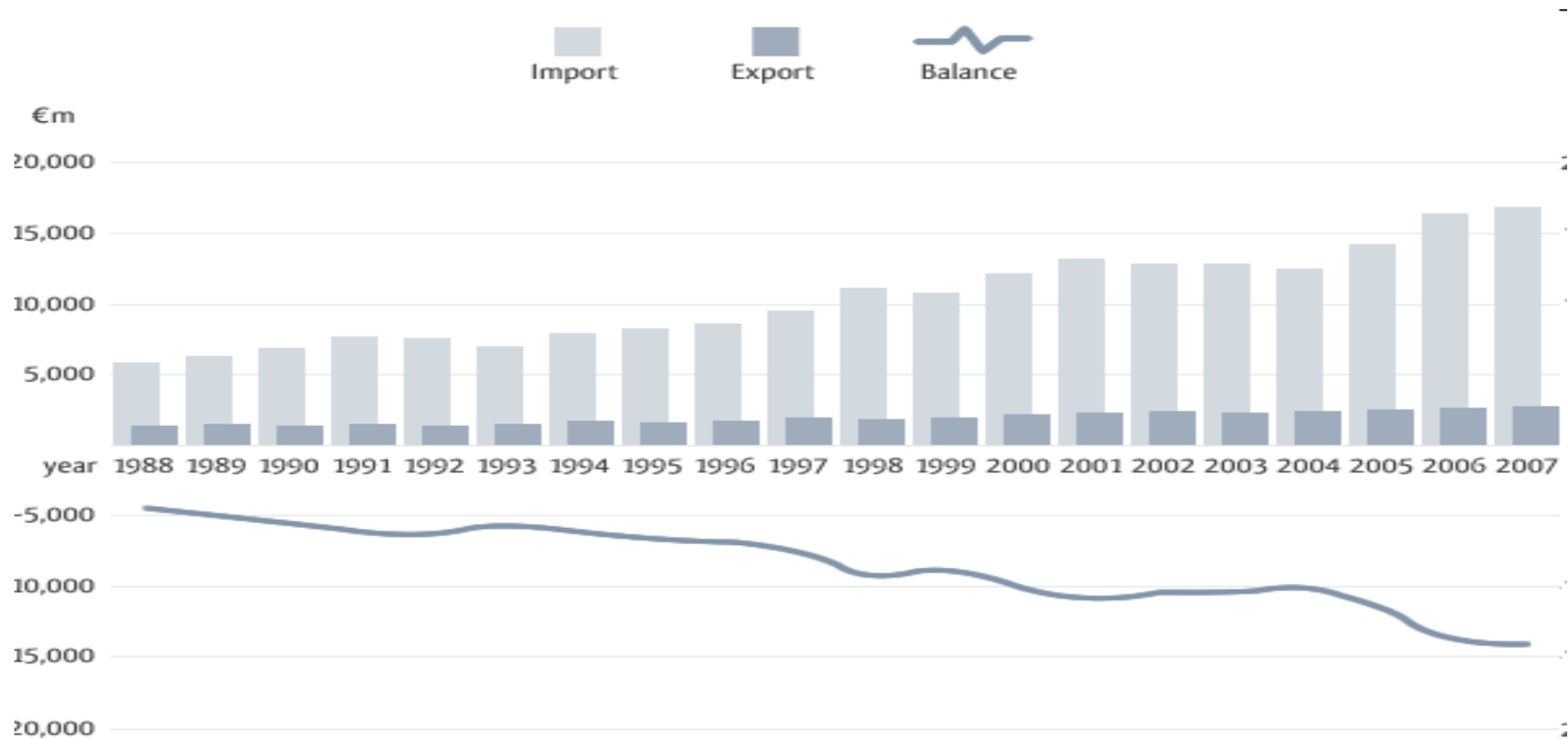
1. Norway
2. China
3. Iceland
4. USA
5. Morocco



The most significant imported fish and fishery products in value terms



Trade 1988-2007 EU with extra-EU fish and fishery products



Export from third countries to the EC

- Formal recognition of a country's CA (Competent Authority) by EC
- Controls and Inspection by CA
- Authorisation (CA) and listing (CA)(EC) of establishments
- A single certificate with public health and animal health attestations (CA)
- Border control (EC)

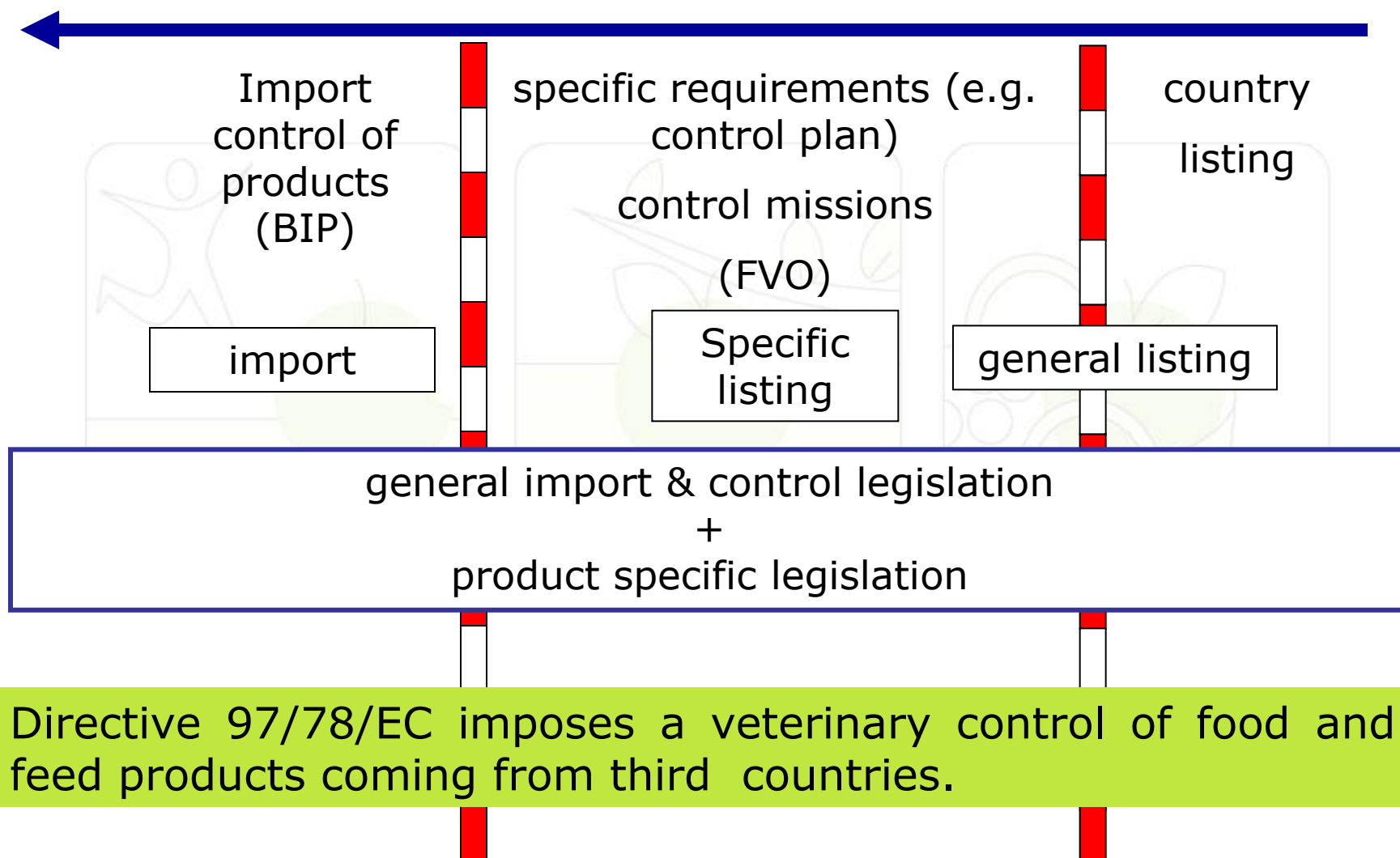


In exporting country

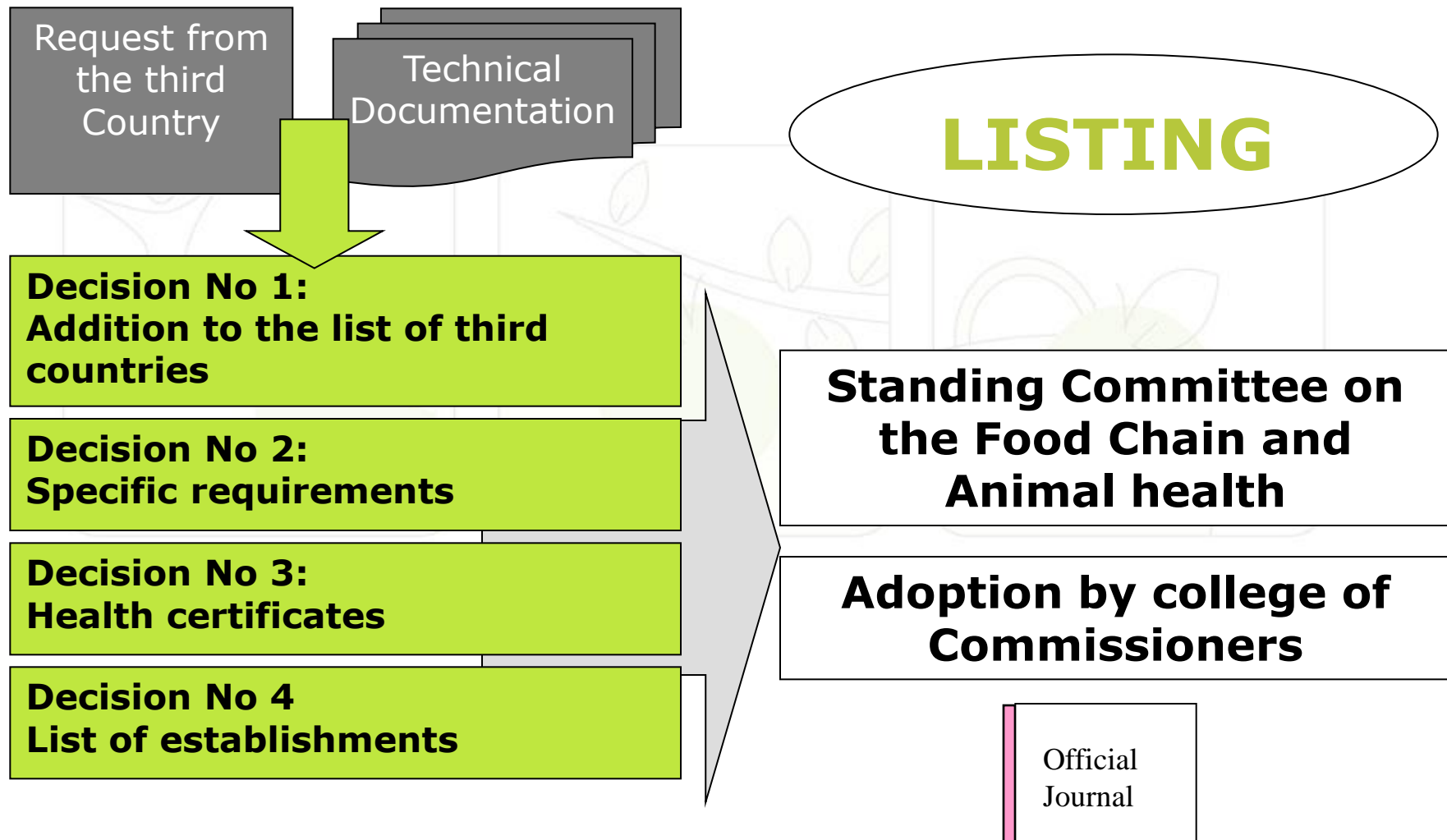
- Exporting country's legislative basis
- Presence of a competent inspection service
 - Able to take actions, Trustworthiness, Reliability, Credibility (e.g. no conflicts of interest)
- Monitoring and control programs
- A laboratory network



Import From Third Countries



Import From Third Countries



Import From Third Countries

Import Control: reinforced measures

Listing of

- countries
- establishments



Results significantly not conform and/or negative report from FVO

Legislation and controls guarantee that exported products comply with EU legislation and consequently that their safety is not compromised



- Test on each arrival/lot
- Additional costs supported by importers

Safeguard clause



Results significantly not conform



De-listing

EU import conditions for seafood and other fishery products

The European Union is by far the world's biggest importer of fish, seafood and aquaculture products. Import rules for these products are harmonised, meaning that the same rules apply in all EU countries. For non-EU countries the European Commission is the negotiating partner that defines import conditions and certification requirements. Also, for most countries with existing trade, the European Commission negotiates on behalf of the 25 Member States.



The European Commission's Directorate-General for Health and Consumer Protection (SANCO) is responsible for food safety in the European Union. Our import rules for fishery products and shellfish (bivalve molluscs) seek to guarantee that all imports fulfil the same high standards as products from the EU Member States - with respect to hygiene and consumer safety and, if relevant, also to the animal health status.

To ensure that imports can take place smoothly and efficiently, interested countries and businesses should understand the fundamental principles and philosophy of the European Food Law, which form the basis for our import rules.

Principles of the European Food Law

Our citizens have legitimate, high expectations regarding the safety and quality of their food. To meet these expectations, the food law of the European Union implements the principle of quality management and process-oriented controls throughout the food chain - from the fishing vessel or aquaculture farm to the consumer's table. Spot checks on the end product alone would not provide the same level of safety, quality and transparency to the consumer.

To fully implement these harmonised principles, the Food and Veterinary Office of the European Commission is currently undertaking missions in all exporting countries, few of which are still trading with individual EU Member States on the basis of bilateral arrangements.





- Special Topics**
- Labelling- Better Regulation
 - Approved Establishments
 - BSE
 - GM Food & Feed
 - Salmonella
 - Rapid Alert System
 - Training Strategy
 - Call for Tenders

Food Safety in Europe



- Food Hygiene
- BSE/Scrapie
- Animal By-Products
- Salmonella/Food-borne Diseases
- Trichinella
- Microbiological Criteria
- Community Reference Laboratories
- Irradiation
- Approved Establishments
- Third Country Establishments List

Welcome to the food safety site, which is part of the overall DG Health a

The central goal of the European Commission's food safety policy is to ensure a high level of protection of human health and consumers' interests in relation to food, taking into account diversity, including traditional products, whilst ensuring the effective functioning of the internal market.

The Commission's guiding principle, primarily set out in its [White Paper on Food Safety](#), is to apply an integrated approach from farm to table covering all sectors of the food chain, including feed production, primary production, food processing, storage, transport and retail sale.

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- FOOD AND FEED SAFETY
- ANIMAL HEALTH AND WELFARE
- PLANT HEALTH
- FVO INSPECTIONS

Commissioner
Androulla Vassiliou

http://ec.europa.eu/food/food/index_en.htm



From “Strengthening Fish Health Conditions in ACP/OCT countries”:

Manual/Handbook for the Execution of Sanitary Inspection of Fish as Raw Material and Fish-Products as Food for Human Consumption

SECRETARIAT OF THE ACP GROUP OF STATES
SFP-ACP/OCT MANAGEMENT UNIT



STRENGTHENING FISHERY PRODUCTS
HEALTH CONDITIONS IN ACP/OCT COUNTRIES
Manual/Handbook for the Execution of Sanitary Inspection
of Fish as Raw Material and Fish-Products as Food for
Human Consumption



REG/70021/000
8.ACP.TPS.137-8.ACP.PTN.REG.001-8.ACP.PTU.REG.001

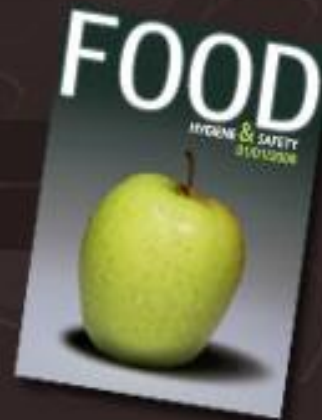


<http://www.sfp-acp.eu/EN/B15-Handbook.htm>

FOOD HYGIENE & SAFETY

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Health & Consumer Protection
Directorate-General

<http://ec.europa.eu/food/food/biosafety/hygienelegislation/dvd/index.html>

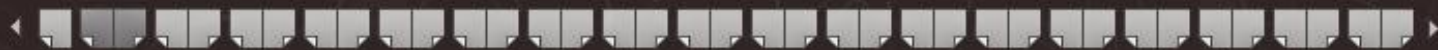


FOOD

hygiene & safety

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