

LEGAL NOTICE No 71/2003

REGULATIONS ISSUED TO AMMEND THE FISHERY PRODUCT

REGULATIONS - LEGAL NOTICE No 40/1998

Art. 1 Short Title

These Regulations may be cited as the "Amendment No 71/2003 of the Fishery Product Regulations".

Art. 2 Amendments

The Fishery Product Regulations – Legal Notice No 40/1998 is amended as follows:

(1) Article 25 shall read as follows:-

" In application of Article 24 of the Fishery Product Proclamation No 105/1998, the Ministry of Fisheries delegates to the Fish Inspection and Quality Control Division to enforce the present Regulations".

(2) Article 26 shall read as follows:-

"Organogram of the Fish Inspection and Quality Control Division (Refer to Annex N° 4 as amended)

(3) Article 27 is replaced by the following new article 27:-

"Article 27 Responsibilities and Authorities:

The Fish Inspection and Quality Control Division shall:

- a) be responsible for good monitoring and regular control at all levels of the sector;
- b) be responsible for arranging and implementation of training programs and awareness creation program;
- c) implement training sessions for professionals involved in harvesting, processing, and marketing of sea food products;
- d) be responsible for implementation of information services to disseminate information to exporters on standards, technical regulations and certification requirements in target markets including eco-labeling (HACCP principles, ISO 9002)
- e) have advisory role in the local market and give:
 - i) advise to fishermen on handling of fish on-board fishing vessels; and
 - ii) advise local fish traders on proper curing and marketing;
- f) observe the local fish market and identify training needs to improve quality;
- g) have legal powers to enforce technical regulations, national standards and sanitary regulations to all sectors involved;
- h) collaborate with authorities in importing countries to create confidence in Eritrean products and upgrade the quality control system to minimize the need for extensive sampling;
- i) be responsible for issuing certificates and maintaining other technical information relevant to certification;
- j) have overall supervision of the activities of the Inspection Unit; and
- k) be responsible to other duties and functions related to its overall objectives.

(1) The Co-ordinator shall:

- a) regularly audit the activities of the inspection units during the routine checks;

- b) report the audit out come to the head for an appropriate corrective action;
- c) review the research results obtained and the standards developed by the Post Harvest Research, Standards and Training Unit; and
- d) assist the head of the division in the overall activities.

(2) Post Harvest Research, Standards and Training Unit shall:

- a) carry out post-harvest research and develop standards accordingly;
- b) establish, develop and improve national standards, sanitary regulations and technical regulations;
- c) give information on changes of standard regulations from importing countries;
- d) develop quality control manuals and evaluate quality control manuals set up by processors;
- e) arrange training programs and awareness creation programs at national level;
- f) conduct training programs for professionals involved in harvesting, processing and marketing of seafood products; and
- g) undertake training programs to fish inspectors, quality controllers, processors, traders on implementation of HACCP principles and codes of best practices;

(3) Inspection Units shall:

- a) ensure inspection programs are implemented, and collaborate with international agencies and import authorities in inspection works;
- b) ensure fish inspection, plant inspection and pre-shipment inspection programs are implemented;
- c) keep record of misconduct committed by establishments and undertake appropriate measures; and
- d) give recommendation on issues of certification.

I) Fish inspection includes:

- a) monitoring factors affecting environment hygiene, handling at landing sites and harvest areas and product quality;
- b) conducting inspection of fish landing facilities and fish at landing sites/harvest areas and product;
- c) conducting inspection on hygiene, sanitation and product quality; and
- d) giving recommendations on any closure of fish shops or landing site.

II) Pre-shipment and plant inspection includes:

- a) implementation of quality and safety inspection of export product;
- b) carrying out plant inspection based on the national legislation;
- c) ensuring that the information on samples is relevant to the information stated by the exporter;
- d) keeping and maintaining sampling records; and
- e) conducting inspection of the condition of packing and storage of export products.”

Done at Asmara, this 30th day of April, 2003
Ahmed Haj Ali
Minister of Fisheries

ANNEX 4

**ORGANOGRAM OF THE FISH INSPECTION AND QUALITY CONTROL DIVISION
(COMPETENT AUTHORITY)**

