Communique

September 30, 2005

TO: ALL IMPORTERS OF FISH AND SEAFOOD

SUBJECT: REMOVAL OF THE COUNTRY IMPORT ALERT FOR

CHLORAMPHENICOL IN AQUACULTURED FISH PRODUCTS FROM

VIETNAM

The following is to inform you that the country import alert, requiring mandatory detention and testing for chloramphenicol of all aquacultured fish products from Vietnam, has been removed. The inspection results from the past two years, for aquacultured fish imported from Vietnam, show a significant improvement in compliance with respect to chloramphenicol. This measure is therefore no longer required to ensure compliance to Canadian requirements for chloramphenicol.

The fish products from Vietnam which are currently on the Import Alert List for chloramphenical will remain on the Import Alert List. As required by section 6.5(2) of the *Fish Inspection Regulations*, lots of those types of fish produced by those processors will continue to be detained and tested for chloramphenical until four consecutive shipments or lots have passed inspection.

The CFIA will also continue to monitor aquacultured fish from Vietnam, on a random basis, for chloramphenicol.

If you have questions related to this matter, please contact your local CFIA office or Mr. Alf Bungay, National Manager, Inspection Systems and HACCP, Fish Seafood and Production Division at (613) 221-7026 abungay@inspection.gc.ca.

Mary Ann Green Director, Fish, Seafood and Production Division

