Fraudulent Practice of Including Glaze (Ice) as Part of the Net Weight Declaration of Imported Frozen Fish Products

November 12, 2010

TO: All Importers of Fish Products

SUBJECT: Fraudulent Practice of Including Glaze (Ice) as Part of the Net Weight Declaration of Imported Frozen Fish Products

As per the Fish Inspection Regulations (FIR), importers of fish and fish products are required to meet all labelling requirements for imported fish products including the accurate declaration of the net weight of the product.

CFIA inspection activities have determined that the weight of some imported frozen fish products include glaze (ice) as part of the declared net weight. This practice is unacceptable and in contravention of the Fish Inspection Regulations and the Consumer Packaging and Labelling Regulations.

All frozen fish products must be labelled to identify the net weight of the products which are being sold in the container and must not include the weight of the glaze (ice) that has been added to the product.

Importers that import and distribute fish products with a fraudulent declaration of the net weight are in contravention of Canada’s regulations and enforcement actions may be taken by CFIA. Enforcement actions may include, but are not limited to, product action, suspension or revocation of the import licence and/or prosecution.

Importers are also reminded of their responsibility to ensure that their suppliers are aware of Canadian regulations pertaining to labelling requirements.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact your local CFIA office.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Sincerely,

Original signed date

Terence McRae
Director
Fish, Seafood and Production Division
Agrifood, Meat and Seafood Safety Directorate
Canadian Food Inspection Agency