



**Maldives Food and Drug Authority**  
**Ministry of Health and Family**  
Male',  
Republic of Maldives

24<sup>th</sup> April 2013

182-FCD/MISC/2013/ 198

Mr. Stefan HOENIG  
Head of Unit F3  
European Commission  
Food and Veterinary Office  
Grange, Dunsany, County Meath  
IRELAND.

Dear Sir,

**Remarks from Maldives to report DG(SANCO) /2013-6712**

I hereby have the pleasure of forwarding comments from the Maldives Competent Authority on the draft report from FVO audit 2013-6712 regarding the evaluation of the control systems in place governing the production of fishery products intended for export to the European Union. Attached is a word document with the Competent Authority's remarks to the recommendations given in the draft report.

**Comments**

**1. ABBREVIATIONS AND DEFINITIONS USED IN THIS REPORT**

- a) Maldives Food and Drug Authority suggest that the abbreviation MFDA stands for Maldives Food and Drug Authority.

**2. SECTION 5.2 COMPETENT AUTHORITY**

*Structure and Organization*

- a) Paragraph 2 Food Safety Division has to be change as Food Safety section.  
b) MFDA suggests amending the following texts as given below throughout the report;  
- The name of the capital city of Maldives shall read as *Male'*.  
- Island health Centers shall be replaced by *Island health facilities*.  
- Community health officials shall be replaced as *Community health officers*.

## Training

- a) MFDA suggests the word *formally* to be replaced by *formerly*.

## Powers and independence; supervision and authority to enforce legislation

Paragraph 5 to be deleted

Justification: The CA and Community Health officer has not carried joint inspection in 2012.

## Documented Control Procedures

Paragraph 1, sentence 2: forms (approval forms, hygiene certificate application forms...) shall be replaced by Exporters registration form and Fishing vessel registration form.

## 5.4.3 Facilities, including vessels, handling fishery products

Paragraph 6, sentence 4: Some cases to be replaced by one case.

Justification: The above mentioned case has happened just once and therefore MFDA would appreciate if it's mentioned as 'one' incidence rather than some cases. This incidence occurred in February 2012; during a time of political instability and authorization to visit the establishment was not granted by the director General for security reasons, hence the delay in audit activities.

## 7. Laboratories

### Findings

Paragraph 1: The word "team" is supposedly missing after the word "audit" in the first sentence.

Paragraph 2: MFDA suggests inclusion of an additional sentence to this paragraph as follows. "Additionally four other chemical tests for water have been accredited".

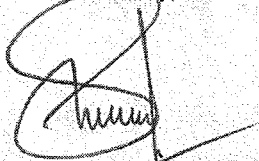
Justification: The paragraph generally implies to microbiological tests that have been accredited. However, additionally four other chemical tests for water were accredited.

## 9. Closing meeting

Paragraph 1: Date of closing meeting to be changed from 29 March 2012 to 29<sup>th</sup> January 2013.

Thank you

Yours' sincerely,



Shareefa Adam Manik  
Director General

