

## ANNEX

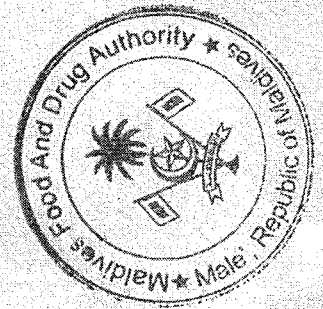
**Response of the Competent Authorities of Maldives to the recommendations of Report ref. DG(SANCO)/2013-6712-MR of an audit carried out from 22 to 29 January 2013 in order to evaluate the control systems in place governing the production of fishery products intended for export to the European Union**

N°	Recommendation	Action Proposed by the Competent Authority
1	The CA should ensure, for contaminants that the standards applied to fishery products for EU export are in line with current EU requirements. In particular, the standards applied should be the up-to-date ones in line with the latest amended version of Regulations (EC) No 1881/2006 and (EC) No 333/2007.	SOPs prepared and used by the CA that deals with contaminants has been revised so that they are now in line with the latest amended versions of Regulations (EC) No 1881/2006 and (EC) No 333/2007.
2	The CA should ensure that collector/transport vessels providing fishery products to EU listed establishments meet requirements equivalent to those established in Section VIII, Chapter I of Annex III to Regulation (EC) No 853/2004 as required in point II.1 of the model health certificate laid down in Appendix IV to Annex VI to Regulation (EC) No 2074/2005.	All the collector/transport vessels used by the EU listed establishments will be registered, inspected and certified by the CA - to meet requirements equivalent to those established in Section VIII, Chapter I of Annex III to Regulation (EC) No 853/2004 – by the end of 2013; an immediate plan has been prepared and implementation is underway to complete the work before deadline.
3	The CA should ensure that fishery products exported to the EU are produced and dispatched from establishments/factory vessels listed in line with Article 12 of Regulation (EC) No 854/2004.	The CA initiated the work to revise all the SOPs and train staffs by December 2013 to ensure that fishery products exported to the EU are produced and dispatched from establishments/factory vessels listed in line with Article 12 of Regulation (EC) No 854/2004.
4	The CA should ensure that establishments/factory vessels have in place, implement and maintain permanent procedures based on HACCP principles in accordance with Regulation (EC) No 852/2004, in particular Article 5, as required in point II.1 of the model health certificate laid down in Appendix IV to Annex VI to Regulation (EC) No 2074/2005.	The CA has initiated reviewing of HACCP manuals of the approved establishments and will complete the task by September 2013.
5	The CA should ensure that official controls verify food business	The CA has introduced a plan to verify the food business operators'

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N°	Recommendation	Action Proposed by the Competent Authority
	<p>operators' relevant own-check records and that a proper follow-up is carried out when non-conformities are identified in order to ensure that fishery products are hygienically obtained in line with Section VIII of Annex III to Regulation (EC) No 853/2004 as required in point II.1 of the model health certificate laid down in Appendix IV to Annex VI to Regulation (EC) No 2074/2005.</p>	<p>relevant own-check records. The criteria for major and minor deficiencies to be prepared and completed by June 2013 and follow-up inspections will be carried out to verify that corrective actions have been taken by the food business operators.</p>
6	<p>The CA should provide guarantees that fishery products for export to the EU have satisfactorily undergone all the official controls laid down in Chapter II of Annex III to Regulation (EC) No 854/2004, in particular, concerning ciguatera and the monitoring of environmental contaminants.</p>	<p>A circular (182-FCD/C/2013/01) has been communicated among the fishery exporters stating exports will only be allowed for ciguatera sensitive species only if they have been analyzed for ciguatera. CA will ensure the HACCP manuals shall be addressed among the hazards while dealing with ciguatera sensitive species.</p>
7	<p>The CA should ensure that laboratories involved in official control take into account in particular, the analytical method for histamine and the performance criteria for heavy metals as is laid down in Regulation (EC) No 2073/2005 and Regulation (EC) No 333/2007 respectively.</p>	<p>Initiated the work to obtain funds in order to develop methods for histamine analysis and heavy metals (cadmium, lead and mercury) tests in accordance with the Regulations (EC) No 2073/2005 and Regulation (EC) No 333/2007 respectively. Method development will be completed by April 2016.</p>



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