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To whom it may concern

Name Change of South African Competent Authority responsible for the issuing of Health guarantees for Fishery Products exported to various countries

The South African Bureau of Standards (SABS) has in times past been accountable for the administration and enforcement of various Compulsory and Health Regulations and requirements pertaining to the export of fish. The SABS consequently issued health guarantees to various destinations when requested by competent operators. As a standards organization, SABS is also responsible for the development, promotion and maintenance of various South African standards and inter alia for fishery products. It has traditionally also assured the conformity of products and provided the necessary assessment services.

Generally, the separation of these classes of activity is acknowledged to be best practice and consequently Government has accordingly rationalized the various services and has created a successor body to the SABS to perform all functions pertaining to the administration and enforcement of compulsory specifications in South Africa. In the near future the National Regulator for Compulsory Specifications (NRCS), will take over all relevant personnel and assets of the SABS Regulatory section, together with responsibility for health and quality assurance for fish. Trading partners have been duly informed and have acknowledged that Health Guarantees, as required by other national jurisdictions, will be issued under the Authority of the NRCS in future.

The new arrangement will entail minor changes in documentation. Health certificates for South African fish exports and other relevant documents will no longer, where applicable bear the SABS signature nor the customary logo: "South African Bureau of Standards".



Health Certificates signed on the authority of the NRCS will, where applicable, display a new logo: "National Regulator for Compulsory Specifications" (NRCS).



The parties involved anticipate a smooth transition at points of entry but should more information be required, please contact Mr. A. De Wet at the following contact details namely viz.

Regards

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