



AV(HS) 1617

16 Apr 2007

Fish Importers/Declaring Agents/Retailers

*(All declaring agents are requested to inform your importers of the contents of this circular)*

Dear Sir/Madam

### **GLAZING OF FISH FILLETS**

1. It has come to our notice that the bulk of frozen sutchi fillets imported into Singapore have excessive glazing with 40% or more added water. Phosphates additives have also been detected in the products.
2. We wish to inform you that the use of phosphates in frozen fish fillets is **not** permitted and such use of excessive glazing is not acceptable. With effect from **1<sup>st</sup> May 2007**, all imported consignments of frozen sutchi fillet must comply with the following:
  - a. all sutchi fillet packages are to be labeled with the actual net weight of the fish (minus the weight of water loss from thawing of the glaze).
  - b. no additives, including phosphates, are allowed be used in the processing of the fillets.
  - c. Glazing % level must be in accordance with acceptable international practice (40% glazing is excessive).
3. Any non-compliance in any consignment with the requirements in paragraph 2 will result in rejection of the consignment for import into Singapore.
4. Retail businesses are also required to clearly indicate the actual net weight of fish products (minus the glaze) and all permitted ingredients and additives used on the product label of the retail pack. Retailers are required to take immediate action to rectify the labels or be subject to enforcement action from **1<sup>st</sup> May 2007**.

5. For further enquiries, please contact Mr Lee Woei Sing at 6325 7102 or the undersigned at 6325 7313.

Yours sincerely

Chua Lay Har (Ms)  
Import and Export Division  
for Director-General  
Agri-Food and Veterinary Services

This is a computer-generated letter and no signature is required.