

**PRODUCTS OF ANIMAL ORIGIN (THIRD COUNTRY IMPORTS) REGULATIONS  
(NORTHERN IRELAND) 2006 (“the Regulations”)**

**DECLARATION UNDER REGULATION 58**

Whereas the Food Standards Agency has reasonable grounds to suspect -

- (i) the presence of high levels of histamine in certain fish species imported from Brazil and intended for human consumption (in particular those belonging to the families: *Scombridae*, *Clupeidae*, *Engraulidae*, *Coryfenidae*, *Pomatomidae* and *Scombresosidae*);
- (ii) serious hygiene shortcomings in Brazil in the handling of fishery products; and
- (iii) the limited capacity of the Brazilian authorities to carry out the necessary checks of fish, in particular to detect histamine in the species referred to in paragraph (i);

Whereas excessive levels of histamine in fishery products are liable to present a serious threat to public health;

Whereas on 16 October 2006, following a Community inspection in Brazil that revealed serious hygiene shortcomings in the handling of fishery products, the Commission of the European Communities adopted Commission Decision 2006/698/EC on emergency measures applying to fishery products imported from Brazil and intended for human consumption (OJ No. L 287, 18.10.2006, p.34):

Whereas on 14 December 2006, because it was necessary to maintain the measures provided by Commission Decision 2006/698/EC, the Commission of the European Communities adopted Commission Decision 2006/931/EC amending Decision 2006/698/EC as regards an extension of its period of application (OJ No. L355, 15.12.2006, p.95);

**The Food Standards Agency declares** in accordance with regulation 58 of the Regulations that with effect from 6 January 2007 and until 30 June 2007 the importation into Northern Ireland from Brazil of fishery products of fish belonging to the families *Scombridae*, *Clupeidae*, *Engraulidae*, *Coryfenidae*, *Pomatomidae* and *Scombresosidae* intended for human consumption is permitted subject to the conditions specified in Articles 2 and 4 of Commission Decision 2006/698/EC on emergency measures applying to fishery products imported from Brazil and intended for human consumption.

Declaration POAO/2006/001 of 19 October 2006 in respect of the importation from Brazil of fishery products of fish belonging to the families *Scombridae*, *Clupeidae*, *Engraulidae*, *Coryfenidae*, *Pomatomidae* and *Scombresosidae* is revoked.

Signed ..... at ..... hrs on 5<sup>th</sup> January 2007

Jim Ross

For and on behalf of the Food Standards Agency

## NOTES

- (1) Any expression used both in this declaration and Commission Decision 2006/698/EC on emergency measures applying to fishery products imported from Brazil and intended for human consumption has the meaning it bears in that Decision.
- (2) Importation of fishery products from Brazil in contravention of this declaration is a criminal offence, punishable by a fine or with imprisonment or both.