

The Republic of Korea Revises Import Control Measures for Aquatic Animals and Products

The Republic of Korea (Korea) has revised the Enforcement Rule of Aquatic Organism Disease Control Act (Rule) to strengthen the prevention of outbreak and spread of aquatic animal diseases. The revised Rule took effect on July 4, 2024, and the following new measures will be implemented on the export of aquatic animals and products to Korea:

1. From July 5, 2025, three amphibian diseases - infection with *Batrachochytrium dendrobatidis*, infection with *Batrachochytrium salamandrivorans* and infection with Ranavirus species – will be included in the list of Korea’s officially-controlled diseases. Export of live amphibians to Korea must be accompanied with a recognised health certificate issued by the competent authority of the exporting country. Hand-carried items that are subject to quarantine must also be accompanied with a health certificate.
2. Aquatic animal-producing (farming, processing, storing) establishments that intend to export aquatic animals and their products (which are ‘designated quarantine items’ in Korea) to Korea must be registered with the National Fishery Products Quality Management Service, Republic of Korea (NFQS), except those establishments that had exported designated quarantine items to Korea before July 4, 2024. The validity period is two years from the day of registration. Establishments can request the NFQS to extend the validity period for seven days before the registration expires.
3. Korean authorities may conduct on-site inspections at the registered establishments or during import risk assessments, if necessary.
4. Korean authorities may take measures of import suspension based on the results of the on-site inspections or import risk assessments.

Source of Information : The National Fishery Products Quality Management Service, Republic of Korea

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