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Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures

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**HARMONIZATION OF DATA ON PRODUCTION ESTABLISHMENTS
(PROCESSING PLANTS AND FACTORY SHIPS), SLAUGHTERHOUSES
AND COLD-STORAGE FACILITIES UNDER
SERNAPESCA SANITARY CONTROL**

COMMUNICATION FROM CHILE

The following communication, received on 21 November 2018, is being circulated at the request of the delegation of Chile.

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1. This communication is to announce that the National Fisheries and Aquaculture Service (SERNAPESCA) of the Ministry of the Economy, Development and Tourism of the Republic of Chile is currently working to harmonize electronically transmitted data, with a view to facilitating trade in fishery and aquaculture export products.
 2. This harmonization particularly concerns the registration number, business name and address of production establishments (processing plants and factory ships), slaughterhouses and cold-storage facilities under SERNAPESCA sanitary control.
 3. In order to reduce the likelihood of inconsistent information being entered into the Service's computer systems and of such information being transmitted electronically in an incorrect manner, the text used to register information has been standardized as follows:
 - use of capital letters only;
 - no accents;
 - no punctuation, although abbreviations may be used;
 - for establishments with a four-digit registration code, removal of the 0 (zero) preceding the code.
 4. All the businesses concerned have been notified so that steps can be taken to update existing records directly in the various destination markets, and in order to ensure consistency between goods and the information regarding their export.
 5. In order to facilitate this process, SERNAPESCA has already sent Chile's main trading partners an updated list of Chilean establishments authorized to export fishery and aquaculture products, so that they can be officially recognized for import control purposes.
 6. The updates that appear in that list will be used for export certification and electronic data transmission purposes as from 1 January 2019 and will be published on the SERNAPESCA website at: <http://www.sernapesca.cl>.
 7. The health authorities of importing countries have been asked to facilitate matters during import control processes so that any differences arising during this data harmonization exercise, between official documents issued by SERNAPESCA and labels or additional registered information or import licences, do not lead to exported goods being rejected.

Further information may be obtained from:
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