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**Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures**

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## **INFORMATION ON COVID-19 TESTING OF IMPORTED COLD CHAIN FOODS**

### **SUBMISSION BY CHINA**

The following document, received on 10 July 2020, is being circulated at the request of the delegation of China.

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1.1. In order to implement the *COVID-19 and Food Safety: Guidance for Food Business*, jointly issued by the FAO and the WHO, and to prevent imported cold chain foods from being contaminated by COVID-19, the Chinese Customs has undertaken emergency nucleic acid testing for COVID-19 of imported cold chain foods, their inner and outer packaging, and containers.

1.2. On 3 July 2020, both Dalian and Xiamen Customs of China found COVID-19 nucleic acid positive samples in three batches of frozen shrimp containers exported to China, with one sample on the inner wall of the container, and five samples on the packaging of shrimps, indicating the risk of COVID-19 contamination on imported cold chain foods. These products are from three enterprises of one of China's important trading partners.

1.3. In order to protect consumers' health, the Chinese General Administration of Customs has decided to suspend the import of products from the above three enterprises, as well as their registration in China starting from 10 July 2020. Their temporarily detained products will be returned or destroyed, and those products at risk of COVID-19 contamination will be recalled.

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