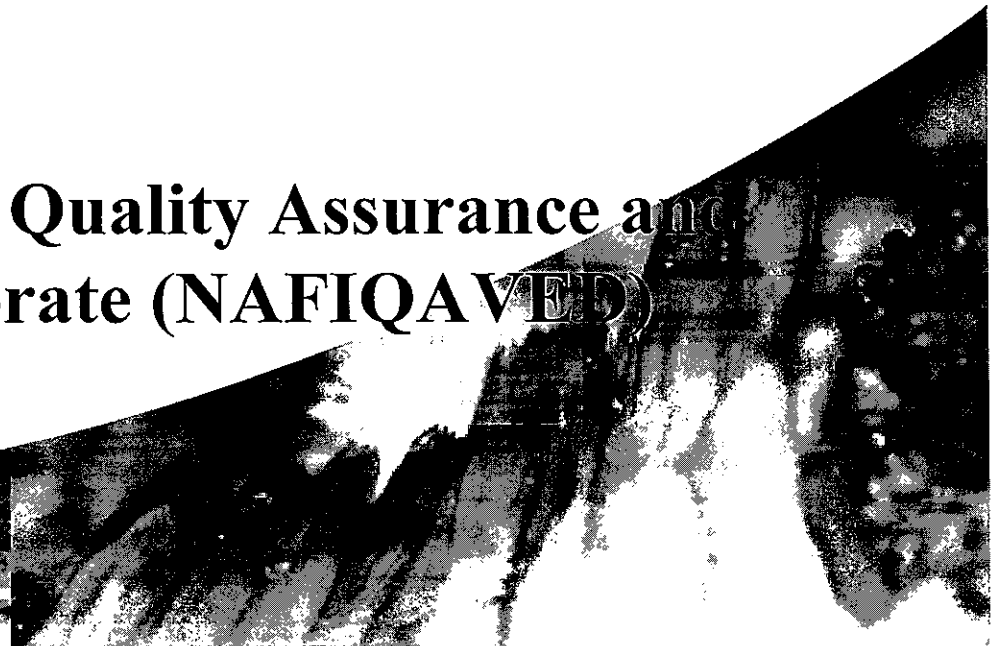




Control measures for fishery quality and banned chemicals and antibiotics residues in fishery products exported to Japan

The National Fishery Quality Assurance and Veterinary Directorate (NAFIQAVED)



OUTLINES

1. Results of the implementation of intensified control measures for banned antibiotics residues in fishery products exported to Japan and the effectiveness of the MOFI Decision No. 1052/QD-BTS dated December 14, 2006.
2. Notification status of Vietnamese fisheries consignments
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1. Results of intensified control measures for banned antibiotics residues in fishery products exported to Japan and the effectiveness of the MOFI Decision No. 1052/QĐ-BTS dated December 14, 2006.

1.1. Results:

- After the promulgation of the Decision 1052/QĐ-BTS (from December 20, 2006 to April 30, 2007), NAFIQAVED has accordingly inspected 387 of 2779 squids and shrimps consignments exported to Japan (equivalent to 13,7%).
- In this period, only exported consignments of 49 processing establishments (of the total of 232, equivalent to 21,1%) had been mandatorily inspected by NAFIQAVED in compliance with the Decision.

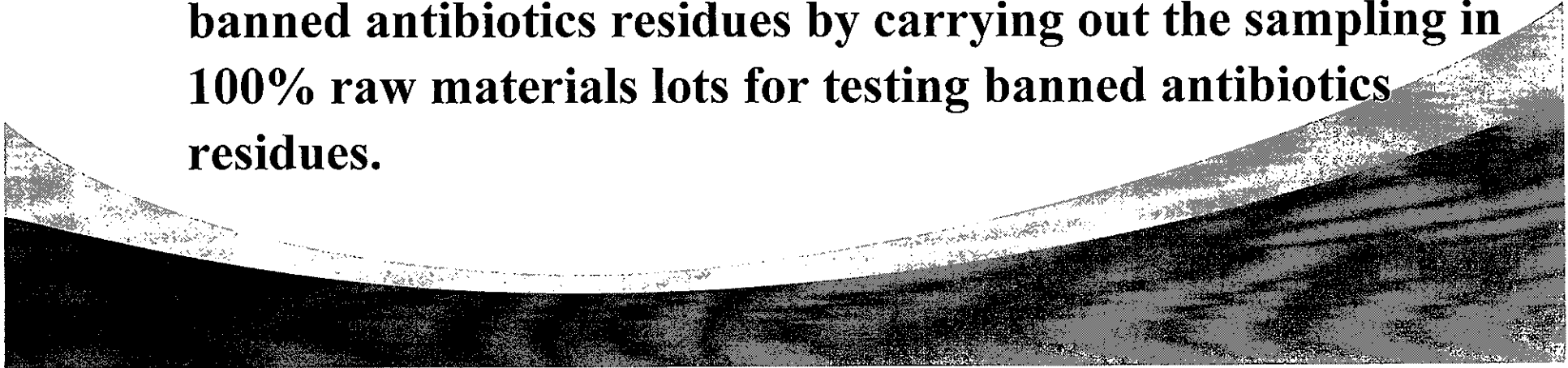
1.2. Notification status of Vietnamese fishery consignments in Japan:

- From December 20, 2006 to June 30, 2007 :

+ 71 fishery consignments (14 squids and 57 shrimp and composed products consignments – equivalent to 1,6% of the total export)) were notified for CAP and AOZ residues.

1.3. Comments on applied control measures in compliance with the Decision 1052/QD-BTS

+ Effectiveness :

- **Number of notified consignments had been reduced (from 4,6 % within last 6 months of 2006 to 1,6% within first 6 months of 2007). However, percentage of notified consignments in comparison with the total exported to Japan is still high.**
 - **Processing establishments are more aware of control of banned antibiotics residues by carrying out the sampling in 100% raw materials lots for testing banned antibiotics residues.**
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1.3. Comments on applied control measures in compliance with the Decision 1052/QD-BTS

+ Shortcomings :

- Do not allow to inspect 100% of fishery consignments exported to Japan for banned antibiotics residues (only 13,7% exported consignments were tested for banned antibiotics residues and 21,1% exporting establishments had been required to pass par NAFIQAVED for the certification of their exported consignments).

- Processing establishments that are not met sectorial requirements on hygiene conditions and food safety were still allowed to export their products to Japan.

- Strong penalty measures had not been applied to notified establishments (temporary suspension of their export to Japan).

2. Intensified measures to be implemented for quality control of Vietnamese fishery consignments exported to Japan.

2.1. Urgent measures :

- On 4th July 2007, NAFIQAVER and VASEP have jointly organised a seminar for discussing measures to be implemented to stop the contamination of antibiotics residues in Vietnam fishery consignments exported to Japan and agreed to request the Ministry that besides the implementation of current control measures, it is required to take urgent measures towards the certification of exported consignments to make good shortcomings of the Decision No. 1052/QĐ-BTS.

- On 11th July 2007, Vietnam Ministry of Fisheries has promulgated the Decision No. 06/2007/QĐ-BTS (replacing the Decision No. 1052/QĐ-BTQ) on the implementation of urgent measures to control chemicals and antibiotics residues in fishery products exported to Japan, accordingly::

a. Only processing establishments meeting sectorial requirements on hygiene conditions and food safety are allowed to export their products to Japan;

b. 100% crustaceans and squids/octopus consignments intended to export to Japan must be inspected in compliance with state requirements;

2.1. Urgent measures (cont.):

C. Temporarily suspend the export of crusteances, squids/octopus and sea food mix consignments to Japan, originated from:

- + Establishments that had more than 2 consignments found with banned antibiotics) and have now newly-notified one;**
- + Establishments that had from 1 to 2 consignments found with banned antibiotics) and have now 2 newly-notified ones;**
- + Establishments that had not been notified yet and have now 3 notified ones;**

d. Test for banned chemicals and antibiotics residues in 100% imported raw material lots. Establishments exporting consignments produced from imported raw materials must clearly indicate the origin of used materials in final products records as well as record all necessary information for traceability as required.

2.2. Long-term measures :

- Organizing trainings on BMP/GaqP and CoC implementation for farmers. Carrying out the inspection and certification of safe aquaculture sites to improve the quality of post-harvested products.
- Implementing of fishery quality control Program at post-harvest stage by carrying out unexpected inspections at farms, middleman... and sampling for testing banned chemicals and antibiotics residues.
Applying penalties to violated stakeholders.
- Improving the awareness on food safety of all stakeholders in primary production chain (since 2000, more 20 thousands of farmers, fisherman and middleman) have been trained on food safety, more 10 thousands officers of local competent authorities have been trained on HACCP and inspection methods in processing establishments.)
- Stopping production of establishments that not meet requirements on hygiene conditions and food safety.

3. Proposals for cooperation between NAFIQAVED and Department of Food safety of Japan

- Inform NAFIQAVED of violated establishments (name, address, information of contaminated consignments) to facilitate the control.
- NAFIQAVED invite a delegation of Department of Food Safety of Japan to Vietnam to inspect the current control measures of Vietnam for fishery quality and discuss the possibility of signing bilateral agreement on the quality and safety control of fishery products traded between 2 countries.

3. Proposals for cooperation between NAFIQAVED and Department of Food safety of Japan

- Through the Japanese Embassy in Vietnam and JICA, Vietnam Ministry of Fisheries is sending support proposals as below:

- a. Enhancing the effectiveness of control activities at post-harvest stage**
 - b. Enhancing capability in testing safety criteria and disease diagnostics**
 - c. Perfecting the legal frame of fishery sector on TBT and SPS and assisting the Ministry in operating the TBT-SPS Notification and Inquiry Points .**
 - d. Building-up and implementing risk analysis and traceability systems in production chain**
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