

**NOTIFICATION OF EMERGENCY MEASURES**

<b>1.</b>	<b>Member to Agreement notifying:</b> <u>MEXICO</u> <b>If applicable, name of local government involved:</b>
<b>2.</b>	<b>Agency responsible:</b> Ministry of the Environment, Natural Resources and Fisheries
<b>3.</b>	<b>Products covered (provide tariff item number(s) as specified in national schedules deposited with the WTO; ICS numbers may be provided in addition, where applicable). Regions or countries likely to be affected, to the extent relevant or practicable:</b> Crustaceans
<b>4.</b>	<b>Title and number of pages of the notified document:</b> Emergency Mexican Official Standard NOM-EM-001-SEMARNAP-PESC-1999, establishing requirements and measures for the prevention and control of the introduction and spread of strains of the disease-carrying causal agents of the disease White Spot Syndrome Virus (WSSV) and Yellow Head Virus (YHV), which could endanger wild and cultivated populations through importation into and movement within the national territory (12 pages).
<b>5.</b>	<b>Description of content:</b> The purpose of this Emergency Mexican Official Standard is to establish the requirements and measures to prevent and control the introduction and spread of strains of the disease-carrying causal agents of the diseases White Spot Syndrome Virus (WSSV) and Yellow Head Virus (YHV), which could endanger wild and cultivated populations through importation into and movement within the national territory (12 pages).
<b>6.</b>	<b>Objective and rationale:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> food safety, <input type="checkbox"/> animal health, <input type="checkbox"/> plant protection, <input type="checkbox"/> protect humans from animal/plant pest or disease, <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> protect territory from other damage from pests
<b>7.</b>	<b>Nature of the urgent problem(s):</b> The diseases known as White Spot Syndrome Virus (WSSV) and Yellow Head Virus (YHV) mainly affect the species of penaeid shrimp, and produce generalized lesions in various organs of the affected specimens causing massive mortality, with rates of up to 100 per cent mortality of cultivated shrimp populations, without any available treatment for prevention and control to this date. Records show that these diseases affect other crustacean species and that the dispersion media of the viruses causing them are varied, as the carriers are live and dead shellfish, their products or by-products, as well as <i>Artemia spp</i> which is used as food in the larval stages of shrimp and other species of aquatic organisms. There is also evidence that the causal agents of the above-mentioned diseases are also spread through the water used in shrimp farming or the waste-water and solid waste produced by shellfish processing. WSSV was detected in shrimp farms and in natural penaeid shrimp populations along the coast of the Gulf of Mexico in United States territorial waters and recently in Central and South America, while WHV has affected shrimp farmed in countries of Asia and in the United States, causing serious economic losses. A strain of the virus causing WSSV was recently identified in Mexico, different from those found in the United States, Central America and Asia. To

7.	<p><b>Nature of the urgent problem(s) (cont'd):</b></p> <p>date, mortality has not exceeded 10 per cent in areas where this strain has been detected.</p> <p>It has been shown that imports of frozen shrimp infected with the causal viruses of WSSV and YHV from countries where viral particles of these diseases have been detected represent a major risk of introducing different strains of these pathogens, which are spread through solid waste and waste-water from the plants reprocessing this product. The movement of live or dead shellfish and their products or by-products whether for the purposes of farming, marketing, processing, research or consumption, represents a high risk of spreading the causal agents of these diseases in the national territory, which could cause losses to aquaculture or natural crustacean populations, thus representing a potential environmental danger.</p>
8.	<p><b>An international standard, guideline or recommendation does not exist [ X ].</b></p> <p><b>If an international standard, guideline or recommendation exists, give its appropriate reference and briefly identify deviations:</b> This Standard is partially in line with those governing the importation of <i>Panaeus</i> crustaceans from Venezuela for cultivation and research purposes.</p>
9.	<p><b>Relevant documents and language(s) in which these are available:</b> <i>Diario Oficial de la Federación</i> (Official Journal) 24 September 1999 (available in Spanish)</p>
10.	<p><b>Date of entry into force/period of application (as applicable):</b> The day following its publication in the Official Journal (25 September 1999), valid for six months from publication.</p>
11.	<p><b>Texts available from/and agency or authority designated to handle comments:</b></p> <p>[ ] National notification authority, [ X ] National enquiry point or address, fax number and E-mail address (if available) of other body:</p>