

New requirements for listing and health certificate
Q&As
Norwegian seafood to China

1. Q: Who is affected by the new requirements and is this something that only concerns Norway?

A: The new requirements for health certificate and listing applies for several countries that wish to export marine products to China.

2. Q: What does the new requirements for listing mean for those that export seafood to China?

A: The new requirements mean that all fishing vessels, cold storages, and shipping vessels (reefer vessels) need to be listed. In addition to this, there are new requirements regarding information about production volumes and exports to China for all businesses that are listed.

3. Q: When will the new requirements enter into force?

A: The new requirements for listing and health certificate enter into force on January 1. 2021. Certificates that are issued on or before December 31. 2020 will most likely be approved by the Chinese authorities, regardless of when the goods cross the Chinese boarder.

Shipments scheduled to be sent to China from January 1. 2021, must meet the new requirements. In addition, the new lists must be approved of the Chinese authorities before the new certificates are issued.

4. Q: We wish to register our company; how do we proceed?

A: The Norwegian Food Safety Authority is working with updating the listing in its system, and a new list will most likely be sent to China at the end of December 2020. In addition, the Norwegian Directorate of Fisheries is working together with all the Norwegian sales organizations for seafood to find a solution for listing all relevant vessels.

5. Q: When can we expect a new, updated list of approved companies?

A: See the answer above. This case is of high priority by the Norwegian authorities. New clarifications are published continuously and will be communicated to the seafood

industry. However, we have very little knowledge of how long the processing time on the Chinese side will be, after receiving the lists from Norway. Be aware that the lists must be approved by the Chinese authorities before the new certificates are issued in Norway.

6. Q: When will the new health certificate for trade in seafood between Norway and China be in place?

A: From January 1. 2021 only the new health certificate is valid for exporting seafood to China. Until the new certificate is in use, there is a lot of uncertainty associated with exporting to China, particularly what kind of requirements the Chinese will demand that the seafood industry adhere to.