

IMPORT REQUIREMENTS OF MAJOR IMPORT MARKETS

Fisheries Technical Seminar
***“Facilitating Market Access of Fish and Fishery
Products for International Trade”***

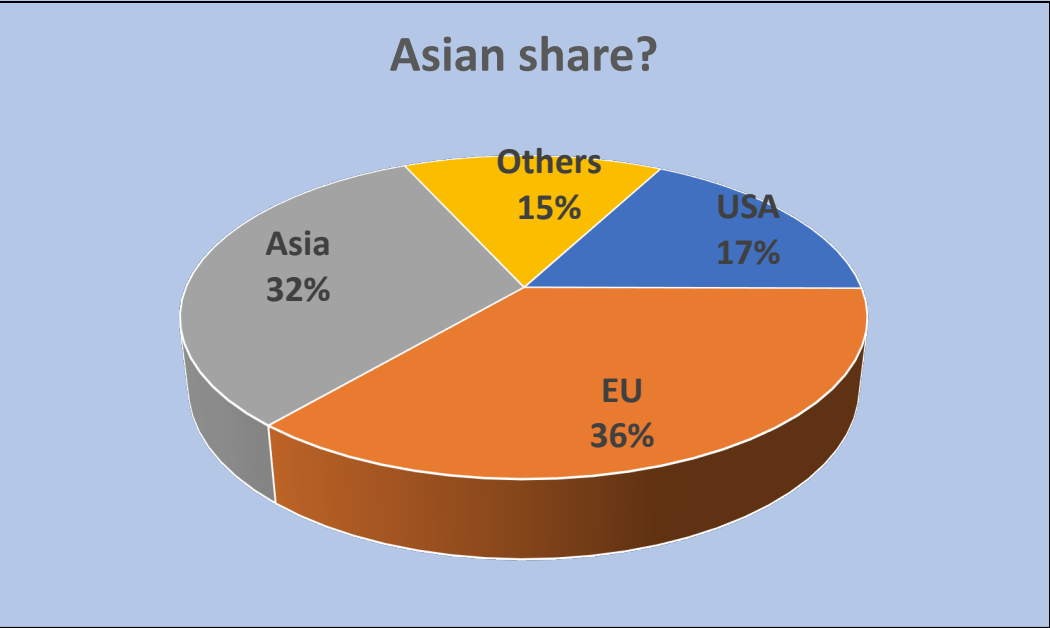
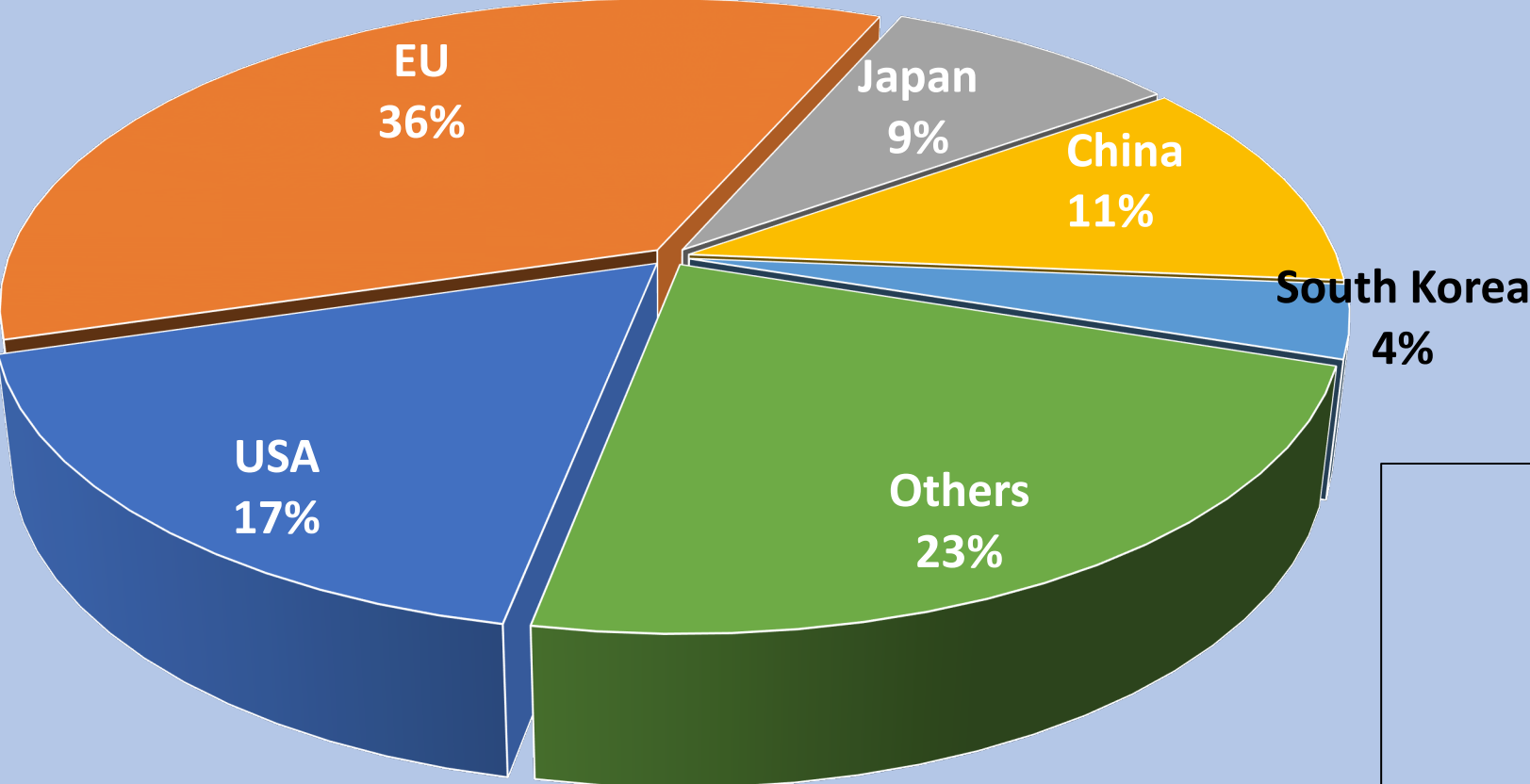
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Hidalgo and Amorosolo Halls, 2nd Floor
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WORLD FISHERY IMPORTS - MARKETS' SHARE



European Union

- The world's biggest importer of seafood
- Imports are harmonized across the countries
- The European Commission's Directorate of Health and Food Health establishes the guidelines of imports of fish and fishery products
- Based on the EU's recognition of a Competent Authority (CA) in exporting countries
- High regard for safety and quality' of their food: regulations implements the principle of quality management and process-oriented controls throughout the food chain - from the fishing vessel or aquaculture farm to the consumer's table ('Farm to fork' principles)

Specific Key Elements

For all fishery products, countries of origin must be on a **positive list of eligible countries** for the relevant product.

The eligibility criteria:

https://ec.europa.eu/food/sites/food/files/safety/docs/ia_trade_import-cond-fish_en.pdf

- The EU-Food and Veterinary Office (FVO) will evaluate the performance of relevant CA and their compliance with EU food safety requirements

Training and Technical Assistance

The European Commission provides training and technical assistance for institutional capacity building to help developing countries comply with EU rules.

Can be arranged through the Better Training for Safer Seafood (BTSSF)

https://ec.europa.eu/food/safety/official_controls/legislation/btsf_en

<https://eeas.europa.eu/headquarters/headquarters-homepage/area/>

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For further information:

- As a first step, companies wishing to export seafood or other fishery products to the EU should contact the relevant competent authorities in their country.
- The Food Safety website of the European Commission's Directorate-General for Health & Food Safety:
https://ec.europa.eu/food/safety_en
- Detailed information on import conditions for animals and animal products:
https://ec.europa.eu/food/animals/animalproducts_en
- Key questions on the new rules on food hygiene and official food controls:
[https://ec.europa.eu/food/sites/food/files/safety/docs/biosafety_fh legis guidance interpretation imports.pdf](https://ec.europa.eu/food/sites/food/files/safety/docs/biosafety_fh_legis_guidance_interpretation_imports.pdf)
- EU Trade Helpdesk: <http://trade.ec.europa.eu/tradehelp/>
- Other reference:
<https://fas-europe.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/12/How-to-export-seafood-to-the-EU.pdf>
<https://www.cbi.eu/market-information/fish-seafood>

USA

Imported fish or seafood products cannot legally enter the US until the merchandise has been authorised by several key agencies

Agencies	Responsibility
Customs and Border Protection (CBP).	CBP is responsible for protecting the U.S. border by regulating and inspecting shipments to prevent anything illegal or dangerous from coming into the country. This agency also has the legal authority to enforce the rules of all other government agencies that regulate any given shipment.
Food and Drug Administration (FDA) ,	The FDA is an agency under the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) that ensures all foreign food coming into the U.S. is safe, sanitary, and legal. To achieve this, they issue a range of requirements from different registrations, inspections, and paperwork to ensure that imports are compliant with U.S. food safety laws.
Food Safety Inspection Service (FSIS)	The agency under the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) that ensures all meat, poultry, and egg products entering the U.S. market are safe and fit for consumption. This includes shellfish, like shrimp. They offer seafood inspection, label verification, and certification services.
National Marine Fisheries Services (NMFS)	The NMFS is an agency under the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). It is the agency that protects endangered species, promotes sustainable fishing, and regulates the global trade of seafood. It protects against illegal, unregulated, and unreported fishing techniques and seafood-related fraud.

Based on the following programs and regulations, such as:

- Imported Food Safety Program
- Prior Notice
- HACCP
- Seafood Import Monitoring Program
- Customs Clearance
- Voluntary Qualified Importer Program

<https://www.fda.gov/food/guidance-regulation-food-and-dietary-supplements>

- *Food Quality*

Hazard Analysis Critical Control Point (HACCP) System

<https://www.fda.gov/food/hazard-analysis-critical-control-point-haccp/seafood-haccp>

Bioterrorism Act

<https://www.fda.gov/food/guidance-regulation-food-and-dietary-supplements/registration-food-facilities-and-other-submissions>

Food Safety Modernization

<https://www.fda.gov/food/guidance-regulation-food-and-dietary-supplements/food-safety-modernization-act-fsma>

- *Packaging and Labelling*

Low Acid Canned Food and Acidified Food Regulations

<https://www.fda.gov/food/guidance-documents-regulatory-information-topic-food-and-dietary-supplements/acidified-low-acid-canned-foods-guidance-documents-regulatory-information>

Country of Origin Labelling (COOL) Requirements

<https://www.ams.usda.gov/rules-regulations/cool>

Customs and Border Protection Requirements

The US Customs and Border Protection's responsibilities include assessing and collecting duties, taxes and fees on imported merchandise, as well as providing documentation to the FDA for required testing.

<https://www.cbp.gov/contact/ports>

- Species Protection

Shrimp Exporters/Importers Declaration

<https://eforms.state.gov/Forms/ds2031.PDF>

- US Fish and Wildlife Service Requirements

The US Fish and Wildlife Service regulates the import and export of living or dead wild shellfish and fish products. Non-living shellfish and finfish intended for human consumption are exempt from Service Import requirements as long as they are not considered injurious or endangered species.

<https://www.fws.gov/le/commercial-wildlife-shipment.html>

Japan

Guidebook for Export to Japan (Food Articles) 2011 <Seafood and Processed Products>

https://www.jetro.go.jp/ext_images/en/reports/market/pdf/guidebook_food_seafood_processed_products.pdf

Regulations and Procedural Requirements

There is no specific law applicable to the sales of seafood and processed products. Regulations relevant to sales are summarized below.

- **<Food Sanitation Act>**

Under the Food Sanitation Act, sales of products that contain harmful or toxic substances or those with poor hygiene are prohibited. Sales of seafood and processed products in containers and packaging are subject to mandatory labeling under the Food Sanitation Act, and provisions concerning safety labeling such as indication of food additives, allergy information, raw ingredients and source, and genetic modification, etc. are applicable.

<http://www.japaneselawtranslation.go.jp/law/detail/?ft=2&yo=%E9%A3%9F%E5%93%81%E8%A1%9B%E7%94%9F%E6%B3%95&ia=03&x=25&y=17&ky=&page=1&re=02>

Import Procedure under Food Sanitation Law

<http://www.mhlw.go.jp/english/topics/importedfoods/1.html>

JAPAN

There is no specific law applicable to the sales of seafood and processed products. Regulations relevant to sales are summarized below.

- Food Sanitation Law
- Importers to notify Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare about food/food additives etc for sale
- Pre-certification system to simplify and speed up import procedures
 - to ensure safety of imported products during manufacturing process and prevent the import of foods in violation of the JSL
 - Health authorities will register products and firms conforming to prescribed quality norms
- Compulsory labelling of country of origin - Japan Agricultural Standards (JAS)

Other regulations

- **DNA testing for tuna**
 - **To crack down false labelling of tuna – eg prevent albacore from being falsely labelled as bluefin tuna**
 - **Labelling must indicate eg. Tuna – catch area as well as the country of origin**

CHINA

- Second single largest seafood importer after the US
- Pre-export approvals by competent authority of importing country

- **Products**

The names and processing methods of products must be on the **List of Eligible Countries (Areas) and Aquatic Products Approved for Exporting to China**.

This list is implemented by the [General Administrations of Customs of the People's Republic of China \(GACC\)](#) and their China Inspection and Quarantine (CIQ) branches at ports of entry. <http://english.customs.gov.cn/>



Safety of Imported and Exported Food

<http://english.customs.gov.cn/Statics/a77a49cf-3fbe-48ac-854a-be507d7c620b.html>

SEAFOOD REGISTER APPLICATION

<https://www.aqsiq.net/seafood-register.htm>

According to AQSIQ and GACC notice 135. **Foreign exporters seafood register**, all foreign Seafood processing plant / Seafood fishing and seafood transport boat / Seafood processing boat / Seafood independent cold storage are required to file their company information online with the Bureau of Import and Export Food Safety of AQSIQ, China's General Administration of Quality Supervision, Inspection and Quarantine of the People's Republic of China. This requirement comes into force with effect from 01 oct, 2015 and annually renewal in AQSIQ and China customs.

The Notice implies that any seafood processing plant / fishing and transport boat / processing boat / independent cold storage shall submit a filing application to AQSIQ before they export seafood to CHINA. Exporters shall fill and submit the application form of seafood exporter through the registration filing management system. Such as the Company Name, country, area, address, contact name, telephone, seafood category, test report, etc.. After submitting the application that exporter will obtain a registration number by the AQSIQ and GACC. So can based on the AQSIQ registration number to declare seafood products at China Customs. <https://www.gacc.app/gacc-aqsiq-seafood-certificate-search.html>

REGISTRATION SEAFOOD CATEGORIES

<https://www.aqsiq.net/imported-seafood-list>

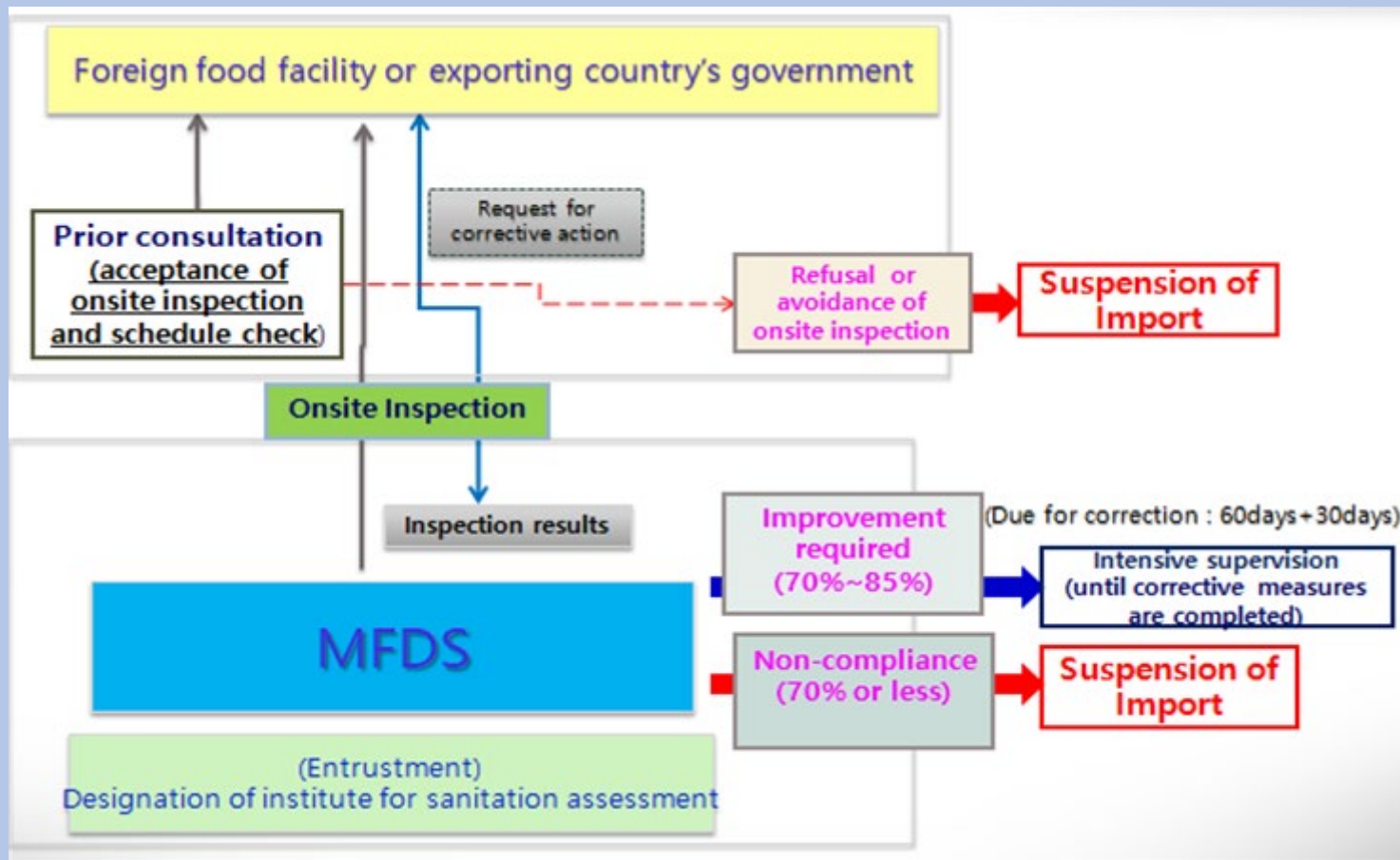
China standard requirements for imported Seafood products:

[https://www.aqsiq.net/pdf/China GB 2733-2015 National Food Safety Standard Fresh Frozen Aquatic Products.pdf](https://www.aqsiq.net/pdf/China_GB_2733-2015_National_Food_Safety_Standard_Fresh_Frozen_Aquatic_Products.pdf)

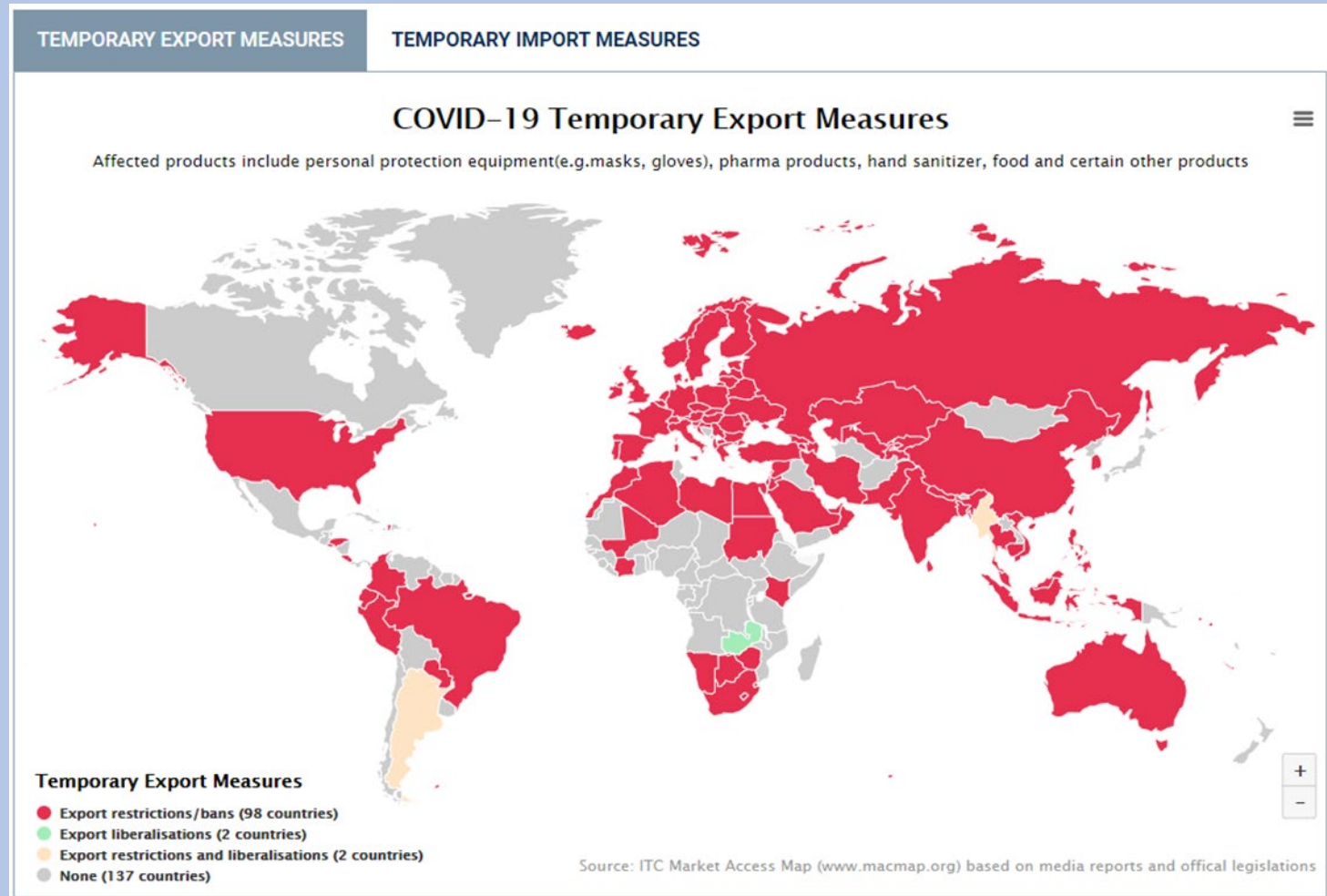
[https://www.aqsiq.net/pdf/China GB 14881-2013 National Food Safety Standard-General Hygienic Reg.pdf](https://www.aqsiq.net/pdf/China_GB_14881-2013_National_Food_Safety_Standard-General_Hygienic_Reg.pdf)

South Korea

- Registration to Ministry of Food Drug and Safety (MFDS) is a mandatory requirement for any foreign food facilities exporting their products to Korea and MFDS on-site inspection is conducted to verify sanitation status of foreign food facilities and to certify eligible establishments as a 'Good Foreign Food Facility'.
- Online application through the Imported Food Information Maru (<https://impfood.mfds.go.kr>)



Global map of COVID-19 temporary trade measures



II. Daily update of COVID-19 trade measures (August 13, 2021)

- **Guyana** extends duty waiver on medical products until December 2021. (01/07/2021)
- The **United States** terminates the prioritized allocation of PPEs for domestic use. (01/07/2021)
- **Namibia** waives import duty and VAT on medical oxygen for certain importers. (21/06/2021)
- **Norway** extends duty to notify exports of certain medicinal products until December 2021. (28/05/2021)
- **Zambia** extends duty waiver on medical products until September 2021. (07/05/2021)
- **Ecuador** bans the export of medical oxygen. (03/05/2021)
- **Bulgaria** terminates export prohibition of certain medical products. (30/04/2021)
- **Argentina** eliminates export licensing requirements on medical oxygen. (29/04/2021)
- **Nepal** eliminates import tariffs on medical oxygen. (29/04/2021)
- **Colombia** waives import duties on oxygen and respirators. (23/04/2021)
- **India** waives import duties on vaccines, oxygen and related medical gear. (20/04/2021)

III. Overview of adopted COVID-19 trade measures (August 13, 2021)

Showing 1 to 383 of 383 entries								
<div> <input checked="" type="radio"/> Measure on export <input type="radio"/> Measure on import Search: <input type="text"/> </div>								
Enacting Country	Type Of Measure	Affected Products	Measure	Effect On Trade	Affected Partners	Status Of Measure	Start Date	End Date
Albania	● Licensing or permit requirements to export	medicines and medical devices ⓘ	Prohibition of export of medicines and medical devices. It will be allowed only upon the authorization of the Minister of Health.	Restrictive	All countries	Active	2020/03/09	Unknown
Algeria	● Export prohibition	food products, medicines, medical supply products	List of products temporary suspended from exports.	Restrictive	All countries	Active	2020/03/22	Unknown
Algeria	● Exceptional measures to facilitate imports	medical supply products ⓘ	Exceptional measures to facilitate import of medical goods and certain other products.	Liberalising	All countries	Active	2020/04/01	Unknown

<https://www.macmap.org/covid19>