



TECHNICAL AND COMPLIANCE COMMITTEE

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**EUROPEAN UNION PROPOSAL FOR A CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT
MEASURE ON A WCPFC YELLOWFIN, BIGEYE AND SKIPJACK TUNAS AND
SWORDFISH CATCH CERTIFICATION SCHEME**

WCPFC-TCC8-2012/DP15

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**EU PROPOSAL FOR A CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT MEASURE ON A
WCPFC YELLOWFIN, BIGEYE AND SKIPJACK TUNAS AND SWORDFISH
CATCH CERTIFICATION SCHEME**

RECOGNIZING the impact that market factors have on the fishery;

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT the conservation and management measure in the Western Central Pacific Ocean that WCPFC has adopted;

CONCERNED by the impact that illegal, unregulated and unreported (IUU) fishing has in the WCPFC Convention area;

REITERATING the responsibilities of flag States to ensure that their vessels conduct their fishing activities in a responsible manner, fully respecting WCPFC conservation and management measures;

NOTING the need for improved and strict control on all the components involved in the yellowfin, bigeye and skipjack tunas and swordfish fisheries;

MINDFUL of the role of port States to participate to the effectiveness of management measures adopted by regional fisheries management organizations;

UNDERLINING the complementary role that importing States also have in the control of the consignments of yellowfin, bigeye and skipjack tunas and swordfish to ensure compliance with WCPFC conservation and management measures;

RECOGNIZING that in order to have effective control of the movements of yellowfin, bigeye and skipjack tunas and swordfish, strict tracking of the product from the point of capture throughout the whole operation to its final importing market has to be established;

COMMITTED to taking steps that conform with international law, notably as regards the World Trade Organization (WTO), and to ensure that yellowfin, bigeye and skipjack tunas and swordfish entering markets of Commission Members, Cooperating Non-Members and Participating Territories (CCMs) of WCPFC and non-members of WCPFC is caught in the WCPFC Convention area in a manner that does not diminish the effectiveness of WCPFC conservation and management measures;

UNDERLINING that the adoption of this measure is intended to help support the implementation of conservation and management measures as well as scientific research for WCPFC yellowfin, bigeye and skipjack tunas and swordfish stocks;

ADOPTS, in accordance with Article 10 of the WCPFC Convention, the following measure:

PART I

GENERAL PROVISIONS

1. Each Commission Member, Cooperating Non-Member and Participating Territory (hereafter referred to as CCMs) shall take the necessary steps to implement a WCPFC yellowfin, bigeye and skipjack tunas and swordfish Catch Certification Scheme for the purpose of improving the traceability of yellowfin, bigeye and skipjack tunas and swordfish.

2. For the purpose of this Scheme:

a) "Export" means:

Any movement of yellowfin, bigeye and skipjack tunas and swordfish in its caught or processed form caught in the WCPFC area by a fishing vessel flying the flag of a CCM to the area of another CCM or non-Member to the WCPFC, or from the fishing grounds to the area of a CCM which is not the flag CCM of the fishing vessel or to the area of a non-Member to the WCPFC.

b) "Import" means:

Any introduction, including for transshipment purposes, of yellowfin, bigeye and skipjack tunas and swordfish caught in the WCPFC area in its caught or processed form into the area of a CCM, which is not the CCM where the fishing vessel is flagged.

c) "Re-export" means:

Any movement of yellowfin, bigeye and skipjack tunas and swordfish in their caught or processed form from the area of a CCM where they had been previously imported.

d) "Consignment" means:

Products of yellowfin, bigeye and skipjack tunas which are either sent simultaneously from one exporter to one consignee or covered by a single transport document covering their shipment from the exporter to the consignee.

e) "Competent authority" means:

Any public authority, public institution and/or official empowered to attest the veracity of information contained in documents required under this CCM and to carry out verification of such documents.

f) "Flag CCM" means:

The CCM where the fishing vessel is flagged.

PART II

YELLOWFIN, BIGEYE AND SKIPJACK AND SWORDFISH - CATCH CERTIFICATES

3. Each consignment of yellowfin, bigeye and skipjack tunas and swordfish imported into or exported or re-exported from the area of a CCM shall be accompanied by a completed and validated yellowfin, bigeye and skipjack tunas and swordfish catch certificate (TTSCC) and, as applicable, a validated yellowfin, bigeye and skipjack tunas and swordfish re-export certificate (TTSRC). Such documents shall be used to certify that catches have been made by a fishing vessel or fishing vessels in accordance with WCPFC conservation and management measures. Any such import, export or re-export of yellowfin, bigeye and skipjack tunas and swordfish without a completed and validated TTSCC or TTSRC shall be prohibited.
4. Each TTSCC form shall have a unique document identification number. Document numbers shall be specific to the flag CCM.
5. Copies of TTSCC shall accompany each exported part of split consignments or processed product, using the unique document number of the original TTSCC in order to trace them.
6. CCMs shall keep copies of documents issued or received for at least two years.
7. Export, import and re-export of fish parts other than the meat (i.e., heads, eyes, roes, guts and tails) shall be exempted from the requirements of this measure.
8. The fishing vessel masters, their authorized representative, the authorized representative of the flag CCM or the exporter shall complete the TTSCC, if possible electronically, by providing the required information in appropriate sections and request its validation in accordance with paragraph 10, on each occasion that they export yellowfin, bigeye and skipjack tunas and swordfish products.
9. A completed and validated TTSCC shall include the information identified in **Annex 1** forms attached. In cases where a section of the TTSCC model does not provide enough room to completely trace movement of yellowfin, bigeye and skipjack tunas and swordfish from catch to final import, the needed information section may be expanded as necessary and attached as annex.
10.
 - a) The TTSCC shall be validated by the competent authority of the flag CCM.
 - b) The competent authority of the flag CCM shall validate the TTSCC for yellowfin, bigeye and skipjack tunas and swordfish products only when all the information contained in the TTSCC has been established to be accurate as a result of the verification of the consignment, and only when those products comply with all relevant provisions of the conservation and management measures.
11. Where yellowfin, bigeye and skipjack tunas and swordfish catches are transhipped or landed in bulk, competent authorities of the flag CCM shall make an additional

validation of the catch certificate section 3 "verified weight landed", following classification of species composition.

12. Where the yellowfin, bigeye and skipjack tunas and swordfish quantities caught and landed are less than 1 metric ton or three fish, the logbook or the sales note may be used as a temporary TTSCC, pending the validation of the TTSCC within seven days and prior to export.

PART Iibis –YELLOWFIN, BIGEYE AND SKIPJACK TUNAS AND SWORDFISH – SIMPLIFIED CATCH CERTIFICATE

13. This Part shall apply to fishing vessels of CCMs
 - a. with an overall length of less than 12 meters without towed gear; or
 - b. with an overall length of less than 8 meters with towed gear; or
 - c. without a superstructure; or
 - d. of less than measured 20 GT.
14. Catches from CCM fishing vessels referred to in point 13 which are only landed in the flag CCM and which together constitute one consignment may be accompanied by a simplified catch certificate (hereinafter referred to as "simplified TTSCC") instead of the TTSCC..
15. The simplified TTSCC shall contain all the information specified in the format set out in Annex 5 and shall be validated by a competent authority of the flag CCM.

PART III

YELLOWFIN, BIGEYE AND SKIPJACK TUNAS AND SWORDFISH RE-EXPORT CERTIFICATES

16. Each CCM shall ensure that each yellowfin, bigeye and skipjack tunas and swordfish consignment which is re-exported from its area be accompanied by a validated TTSRC.
17. The operator who is responsible for the re-export shall complete the TTSRC by providing the required information in its appropriate sections and request its validation for the consignment to be re-exported. The completed TTSRC shall be accompanied by a copy of the validated TTSCC relating to the yellowfin, bigeye and skipjack tunas and swordfish products previously imported.
18. The TTSRC shall be validated by the competent authority of the re-exporting CCM.
19. The re-exporting CCM shall validate the TTSRC for yellowfin, bigeye and skipjack tunas and swordfish product only when:
 - a) all the information contained in the TTSRC has been established to be accurate,
 - b) the validated TTSCC(s) submitted in support to the TTSRC had been accepted for the importation of the products declared on the TTSRC,

c) the products to be re-exported are wholly or partly the same products on the validated TTSCC(s) and

d) a copy of the TTSCC(s) shall be attached to the validated TTSRC.

20. The validated TTSRC shall include the information identified in **Annex 2** forms attached.

PART IV

PROCESSED PRODUCTS

21. In order to re-export products constituting one single consignment and which have been processed in that re-exporting CCM using yellowfin, bigeye and skipjack tunas and swordfish imported from a third country other than that re-exporting CCM, the re-exporting CCM shall ensure that the TTSRC shall be accompanied by a Processing Statement(s) established by the processing plant and endorsed by its competent authorities. The Processing Statement shall be in accordance with the form of **Annex 3** to the TTSRC.
22. When a CCM exports processed products caught by catching vessels flagged to the CCM, it is not required to submit a Processing Statement(s).

PART V

COMMUNICATION AND VERIFICATION

23. Each CCM shall communicate, if possible electronically, a copy of all validated TTSCCs or TTSRCs within fifteen working days following the date of validation, or without delay where the expected duration of the transportation should not take more than fifteen working days, to the following:
- a) the competent authorities of the CCM where the yellowfin, bigeye and skipjack tunas and swordfish will be imported, and
 - b) the WCPFC Secretariat.
24. The WCPFC Secretariat shall extract from the validated TTSCCs or communicated under paragraph 21 above the information marked with an asterisk in **Annex 1** or **Annex 2** forms and enter this information in a database on a password protected section of its website, as soon as practicable.

At its request, the Scientific Committee shall have access to the catch information contained in the database, except the vessel names.

25. Each CCM shall ensure that its competent authorities take steps to identify each consignment of yellowfin, bigeye and skipjack tunas and swordfish imported into or exported or re-exported from its area and request and examine the validated TTSCC(s), simplified TTSCC(s) or TTSRC and related documentation of each consignment of yellowfin, bigeye and skipjack tunas and swordfish.

These competent authorities may also examine the content of the consignment to verify the information contained in the TTSCC, simplified TTSCC(s) or TTSRC and in related documents and, where necessary, shall carry out verifications at the operators concerned.

26. If, as a result of examinations or verifications carried out pursuant to paragraph 25, a doubt arises regarding the information contained in a TTSCC, simplified TTSCC(s) or TTSRC the final importing CCM and the CCM whose competent authorities validated the TTSCC(s), the simplified TTSCC(s) or TTSRC(s) shall cooperate to resolve such doubts.
27. If a CCM involved in trade of yellowfin, bigeye and skipjack tunas and swordfish identifies a consignment with no TTSCC/simplified TTSCC or no valid TTSCC/simplified TTSCC, it shall notify the findings to the exporting CCM and, where known, the flag CCM.
28. Pending the examinations or verifications under paragraph 25 to confirm compliance of the yellowfin, bigeye and skipjack tunas and swordfish consignment with the requirements in the present and any other relevant measures adopted by WCPFC, the CCM shall not grant its release for import or export.
29. Where a CCM, as a result of examination or verifications under paragraph 23 and in cooperation with the validating authorities concerned, determines that a TTSCC, a simplified TTSCC or a TTSRC is invalid, the import, export or re-export of the yellowfin, bigeye and skipjack tunas and swordfish products concerned shall be prohibited.
30. The Commission shall request the non-CCMs that are involved in import, export or re-export of yellowfin, bigeye and skipjack tunas and swordfish to cooperate with the implementation of the Catch Certification Scheme and to provide to the Commission data obtained from such implementation.

PART V

COMMUNICATION OF DATA

31. CCMs that validate TTSCCs and/or simplified TTSCCs in respect of their flag fishing vessels and/or TTSRCs, shall notify to the WCPFC Secretariat the name and full address of their competent authorities. If the national law of a CCM requires that such validation be granted on an individual basis, then the name, title, signature and sample impression of stamp or seal of the validating competent authorities who are individually empowered shall also be notified to the WCPFC Secretariat.

This notification shall indicate the date at which this entitlement comes into force. A copy of the provisions adopted in national law for the purpose of implementing the yellowfin, bigeye and skipjack tunas and swordfish Catch Certification Scheme shall be communicated with the initial notification. Updated details on validating authorities, officials and national provisions shall be communicated to the WCPFC Secretariat in a timely fashion.

32. The information on competent authorities and officials transmitted by notifications to the WCPFC Secretariat shall be placed on a password protected page of the database on validation held by the WCPFC Secretariat. The list of the CCMs having notified their competent authorities, officials and the dates of entry into force of the entitlement shall be placed on a publicly accessible website held by the WCPFC Secretariat.

CCMs are encouraged to access this information to help verify the validation of TTSCCs, simplified TTSCCs and TTSRCs.

33. Each CCM shall notify to the WCPFC Secretariat the points of contact (name, full address of the authorities and email) that should be informed when there are questions related to TTSCCs, simplified TTSCCs or TTSRCs.
34. Notification pursuant to paragraphs 31, 32 and 33 shall be sent by CCMs to the WCPFC Secretariat, by electronic means, whenever possible.
35. CCMs shall provide to the WCPFC Secretariat a report each year by October 1 for the period from July 1 of the preceding year to June 30 of the current year to provide the information described in **Annex 4**.

The WCPFC Secretariat shall post these reports on a password protected section of the WCPFC website, as soon as practicable. At its request, the Scientific Committee shall have access to the reports received by the WCPFC Secretariat.

36. This measure shall be revised within 3 years of application, with the view of expanding the scope of application of the WCPFC Catch Certification Scheme to all other tuna and tuna like species falling under the WCPFC competence subject to conservation and management measures as well as any other elements deemed to be revised.

37. CCMs shall consider the implementation of an integrated electronic catch certification scheme in a view to complement and progressively replace the paper-based one.

Annex 1

WCPFC yellowfin, bigeye and skipjack and swordfish catch certificate

WCPFC CATCH CERTIFICATE

DOCUMENT NUMBER

1. VALIDATING AUTHORITY

Name

Address

Tel.:

E-mail:

Fax:

2. FISHING VESSEL

Fishing Vessel Name*

Flag* - Home Port and Registration Number

Call Sign

IMO/Lloyd's Number (if issued)

Fishing licence No.

Valid until

Inmarsat No. Telefax No. Telephone No. E-mail address (if issued)

3. DESCRIPTION OF PRODUCT(See next page)

4. APPLICABLE CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT MEASURES

References of applicable conservation and management measures

5. MASTER OF FISHING VESSEL

Name of master of fishing vessel

Signature

Seal

WCPFC CATCH CERTIFICATE

3. DESCRIPTION OF PRODUCT

Species*

Product code

Catch area(s) and
dates*

Estimated live weight
(kg)*

Estimated weight to
be landed (kg)

Verified Weight Landed
(kg) where appropriate

Type of processing
authorised on board

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6. DECLARATION OF TRANSHIPMENT AT SEA

Name of Master of Fishing vessel	Signature	Date
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Transhipment Date	Transhipment Area	Transhipment Position	Estimated weight (kg)
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Master of Receiving Vessel	Signature
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Vessel Name	Call Sign	IMO/Lloyds Number (if issued)
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7. TRANSHIPMENT AUTORISATION WITHIN A PORT AREA

Name	Authority	Signature
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Address	Tél.
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Port of Landing	Date of Landing	Seal
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8. EXPORTER

Name and address of Exporter

Signature	Date	Seal
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9. FLAG STATE AUTHORITY VALIDATION

Name/Title		
Signature	Date	Seal

10. TRANSPORT DETAILS
(See Appendix I)

11. IMPORTER INFORMATION

Company	Point of Import (City, Country, State)
Address	
Date (dd/mm/yy)	Signature

12. IMPORT CONTROL-AUTHORITY

Place:	Importation authorised(*)	Importation suspended(*)	Verification requested- date:
Customs declaration (if issued)	Number	Date	Place

(*) Tick as appropriate

WCPFC CATCH CERTIFICATE

APPENDIX I. TRANSPORT DETAILS

1. Exporting country*

2. Exporter Signature

Port/airport/other place of departure

Name

Address

Signature

Vessel name and flag

Container number(s)

Flight number/airway bill number

Truck nationality and registration number

Railway bill number

Other transport document

Annex 2

WCPFC yellowfin, bigeye, skipjack and swordfish re-export certificate

WCPFC yeollowfin, bigeye and skipjack species and swordfish re-export certificate

Document Number*:

RE-EXPORT SECTION

1. RE-EXPORTING COUNTRY/ENTITY/FISHING ENTITY:

2. POINT OF RE-EXPORT*

3. DESCRIPTION OF IMPORTED TUNA AND SWORDFISH

F/FR	Product Type RD/GG/DR/FL/OT	Net weight (kg)*	Flag CPC*	Date of import*	TTSCC No*
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4. DESCRIPTION OF TUNAS AND SWORDFISH FOR RE-EXPORT

F/FR	Product Type* RD/GG/DR/FL/OT	Net weight (kg)*	Corresponding TTSCC number from section 3.
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F= Fresh, FR= Frozen, RD= Round, GG= Gilled & Gutted, DR= Dressed, FL=Filet, OT= Others (Describe the type of the product):

STATE OF DESTINATION*:

5. RE-EXPORTER STATEMENT:

I certify that the above information is complete, true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Name	Address	Signature	Date
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6. GOVERNMENT VALIDATION

I validate that the above information is complete, true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Name & Title	Signature	Date	Authority Seal
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IMPORT SECTION

7. IMPORTER STATEMENT:

I certify that the above information is complete, true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Importer Certification

Name	Address	Signature	Date
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Final point of import*: City	State/Province	CCM
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NOTE: if a language other than English is used in completing this form, please attach the English translation to this form.

NOTE: Valid transport documents and copies of TTSCC shall be attached.

Annex 3

Statement by the processing plant

STATEMENT BY THE PROCESSING PLANT

I confirm that the processed fishery products; (product description and Combined Nomenclature code) have been obtained from catches imported under the following catch certificate(s):

Catch certificate number	Vessel name(s) and flag(s)	Validation date(s)	Catch description	Total landed weight (kg)	Catch processed (kg)	Processed fishery product (kg)

Name and address of the processing plant:

.....

Name and address of the exporter (if different from the processing plant):

.....

Approval number of the processing plant:

.....

Responsible person of the processing plant:

Signature:

Date:

Place:

Endorsement by the competent authority:

.....

Official	Signature and seal	Date:	Place:

Annex 4

Report on the Implementation of the WCPFC Yellowfin, bigeye and skipjack and swordfish - Catch Certification Scheme

Report on the Implementation of the WCPFC Yellowfin, bigeye and skipjack and swordfish - Catch Certification Scheme

Reporting CCM:

Period of reference: July 1 [2XXX] to June 30 [2XXX]

1. Information extracted from TTSCCs

- number of TTSCCs validated;
- number of validated TTSCCs received;
- total amount of yellowfin, bigeye and skipjack tunas and swordfish products imported, exported, re-exported with breakdown by CCM of origin, re-export or destination, fishing areas and fishing gears;
- number of verifications of TTSCCs requested to other CCMs and summary results;
- number of requests for verifications of TTSCCs received from other CCMs and summary results;
- total amount of yellowfin, bigeye and skipjack tunas and swordfish consignments subject to a prohibition decision with breakdown by products, nature of operation (import, export, re-export), reasons for prohibition and CCMs and/or non-Members of origin or destination.

2. Information on cases under Part IV paragraph 23

- number of cases
- total amount of yellowfin, bigeye and skipjack tunas and swordfish with breakdown by products, nature of operation (import, export, re-export), CCMs or other countries referred to in Part IV paragraph 23 above.

Annex 5

WCPFC simplified catch certificate

WCPFC SIMPLIFIED CATCH CERTIFICATE

Document number

1. VALIDATING AUTHORITY

Name

Address

Tel.:

e-mail:

Fax:

2. DESCRIPTION OF PRODUCT

Species

Product code

Verified Weight Landed (kg) where appropriate

3. APPLICABLE CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT MEASURES

References of applicable conservation and management measures

4. LIST OF VESSELS THAT HAVE PROVIDED CATCHES AND THE QUANTITIES BY EACH VESSEL (See next page)

5. EXPORTER

Name, address, tel. and fax of Exporter

Signature

Date

Stamp/seal

6. FLAG STATE AUTHORITY VALIDATION

Name/Title

Signature

Date

Stamp/seal

7 TRANSPORT DETAILS: see appendix I

8. IMPORTER DECLARATION

Name and address of Importer

Signature

Date

Stamp/seal

Product CN Code

9. IMPORT CONTROL AUTHORITY

Name/Title/Place

Status of importation (*mark as appropriate*)

Verification requested - date

Authorised / Suspended

Customs declaration (if issued)

Number

Date

Place

WCPFC SIMPLIFIED CATCH CERTIFICATE

4. LIST OF VESSELS

List no:.....

Page: (..... /)

Catch Certificate no:

Exporter:

Vessels list

No.	Name of the vessel	Registration number	Product	Quantity (kg)
1				
2				
3				
4				
5				
6				
7				
8				
9				
10				

Total:

Signature and seal/stamp of the exporter:

Flag State Validating Authority

Name/title

Date and Signature

Seal/stamp

WCPFC SIMPLIFIED CATCH CERTIFICATE

APPENDIX I. TRANSPORT DETAILS

1. Exporting country:

Port/airport/other place of departure

2. Exporter Signature

Name

Address

Signature

Vessel name and flag

Container number(s)

Flight number/airway bill number

Truck nationality and registration number

Railway bill number

Other transport document

WCPFC SIMPLIFIED CATCH CERTIFICATE

WCPFC simplified re-export certificate

WCPFC re-export certificate

Document Number:

RE-EXPORT SECTION

1. RE-EXPORTING COUNTRY/ENTITY/FISHING ENTITY:

POINT OF RE-EXPORT

3. DESCRIPTION OF IMPORTED PRODUCT

F/FR	Product Type RD/GG/DR/FL/OT	Net weight (kg)	Flag CPC	Date of import	TTSCC No*
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4. DESCRIPTION OF PRODUCTS FOR RE-EXPORT

F/FR	Product Type RD/GG/DR/FL/OT	Net weight (kg)	Corresponding TTSCC number from section 3.
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F= Fresh, FR= Frozen, RD= Round, GG= Gilled & Gutted, DR= Dressed, FL=Filet, OT= Others (Describe the type of the product):

* STATE OF DESTINATION:

5. RE-EXPORTER STATEMENT:

I certify that the above information is complete, true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Name	Address	Signature	Date
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6. GOVERNMENT VALIDATION

I validate that the above information is complete, true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Name & Title	Signature	Date	Government Stamp/seal
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IMPORT SECTION

7. IMPORTER STATEMENT:

I certify that the above information is complete, true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Importer Certification

Name	Address	Signature	Date
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Final point of import: City	State/Province	CCM
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NOTE: if a language other than English is used in completing this form, please attach the English translation to this form.

NOTE: Valid transport documents and copies of TTSCC shall be attached.