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MAC LETTER

Scientific Denomination Changes to Certain Fish and Cephalopods Species

On 3 September 2019, at the Working Group 3 meeting on 'EU Controls and Sanitary Issues and Consumer Rules', MAC members discussed the possible consequences to the EU's market and producers of the proposed changes to the scientific denominations of

- Golden redfish (*Sebastes marinus*, new denomination: *Sebastes norvegicus*),
- Alaska pollock (*Theragra chalcogramma*, new denomination: *Gadus chalcogrammus*) and
- Mitre squid (*Loligo chinensis* [*Loligo formosana*], new denomination: *Uroteuthis chinensis*).

Following new views among the scientific community, the authorities of some third countries have begun issuing official documents with references to these new scientific denominations, while the World Customs Organisation's Harmonized System (HS) and the European Union's Combined Nomenclature (CN) continue to refer to the previous ones. This situation causes constraints in trade operations and creates confusion along the seafood value chain.

Therefore, the MAC would like to request information on the state-of-play of the mentioned denomination changes at the World Custom Organisation's level as well as at the Union Customs Code's level.

The MAC would very much welcome official information on the abovementioned situation, in order to prevent further difficulties among European operators. Likewise, it would allow the MAC to eventually provide advice on this topic with the required factual background.

Best regards,
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Chair of the Market Advisory Council