

Brussels, 23/12/2015
MARE.A2/EG (ARES(2015)6021644

CC SUD
Jean-Marie Robert
6, rue Alphonse Rio
56100 Lorient
France

Issue: Labelling and consumer information

Your ref.: SWWAC opinion no. 96

Dear Mr Robert,

I would like to thank you for SWWAC's opinion expressing your positions relating to labelling and consumer information. This same opinion also includes a request for mandatory identification of origin for the ingredients representing more than 50% of processed fishing products, in cans or other packaging, for anchovy, northern albacore, mussels and sardines and also a request to modify Regulations 1379/2013 and 404/2011 in this regard.

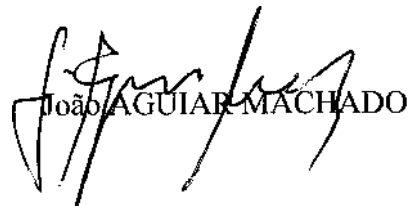
Concerning your first request, article 26, 2(a) of Regulation (EU) No. 1169/2011¹ also applies to fishing products, and specifies that "the information on the country or place of origin is mandatory when its omission would mislead consumers regarding the actual country or place of origin of the food stuff, particularly if the information attached to the foodstuff or the label as a whole may lead consumers to believe that the foodstuff is from a different country or place of origin".

Concerning your second request, the report presented by the Commission on this subject on 20 May clearly concludes that voluntary labelling is the best option. Therefore, the Commission is not able to make exceptions and does not intend to make proposals designed either to make origin labelling mandatory for the products in question or to modify the regulations concerned.

Regulation (EU) No. 1169/2011 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 25 October 2011 concerning consumer information on foodstuffs

I would like to thank you for this constructive contribution. If you have any further questions, I would ask you to contact Mrs Evangelia Georgitsi, coordinator of the Advisory Councils (evangelia.georgitsi@ec.[europa.eu](mailto:evangelia.georgitsi@ec.europa.eu); +32.2.295.04.43).

Yours sincerely



João AGUIAR MACHADO