

Fisheries Law and Regulations

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Fish movement

- The competent authority for movements of live fish and fish as food is the DG for Protection and Control of MoFAL. According to Fisheries Regulation No. 22223, import and export of live aquatic life shall be conducted only through customs declared by MoFAL in the Official Gazette.



- It is compulsory to present a Health Certificate and Certificate of Origin prepared by official intuitions of the country of origin for imported aquatic animals. In the case of live fish intended for broodstock, these certificates should be approved by Turkish Consulate in that country of origin.

- Tuna caught in international waters for fattening purpose and directly imported into the country need veterinary control on the border.
- The Ministry of Food Agriculture and Livestock arranges Certificates of Origin and Health Certificates for live aquatic animals that are exported out of the country. Private and public companies producing and marketing broodstock need to obtain Broodstock Health Certificates from the Ministry.

- Article 18 of Aquaculture Regulation No. 25507 provides the following provisions for eggs, fry and broodstock importation:
- Importing eggs, fry or broodstock for aquaculture production requires a permit from MoFAL's Central Office or Provincial Directorates.
- Documentation is needed for importation, as defined by MoFAL's Central Office.

- Egg, fry, and broodstock importers must apply to the relevant Provincial Directorate, giving amount/number of requirements. The Provincial Directorate arranges a Certificate of Need. These documents are sent to the Central Office of the Ministry. If the Central Office approves the importation of required live material, a Control Document is prepared and approved. Then, the Control Document, Certificate of Origin, Health Certificate, and invoice are sent to the Provincial Directorate, where the material will enter through customs.

- None of the current regulations mention quarantine requirements for imported live aquatic material. In case of the introduction of non-native/exotic species, the Ministry requests universities' and NGOs' written approaches, and decides according to these views. Currently there is no strict regulation on the movement of live material within the country.