

The summary of the new Act on Ensuring the Proper Domestic Distribution and Importation of Specified Aquatic Animals and Plants

In order to ensure sustainable use of the aquatic resources, the Act aims at preventing inadequate distribution of aquatic animals and plants and IUU fishing by requiring the stakeholders to meet the obligation as follows:

1) Fishers' obligation:

- to notify of their fishing license to the government before fishing the designated aquatic animals and plants (then, fisher identification number will be assigned).
- to attach the labels of the fisher identification number and the fishing activity number on each lot.

2) Distributors' obligation:

- to conduct record-keeping of the transaction information for traceability (product name and weight, date, name of business operator, fisher identification number and fishing activity number) for each transaction of the designated aquatic animals and plants.

3) Exporters' obligation:

- to obtain and attach the catch certificate issued by MAFF to the consignment when exporting the designated aquatic animals and plants.

4) Importers' obligation:

- to obtain and attach the certificate issued by competent authority of exporting country when importing the designated aquatic animals and plants or the products derived from them in order to confirm that they are not caught by IUU fishing.