



# **Regional Training Course on Port State Measures Inspection in Focus of Shipping Container for Fish and Fisheries Product – Current Container Inspection Practices**

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Purpose: For Information

Platform: SEAFDEC Training Dept, Samut Prakan, Thailand

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# Outline

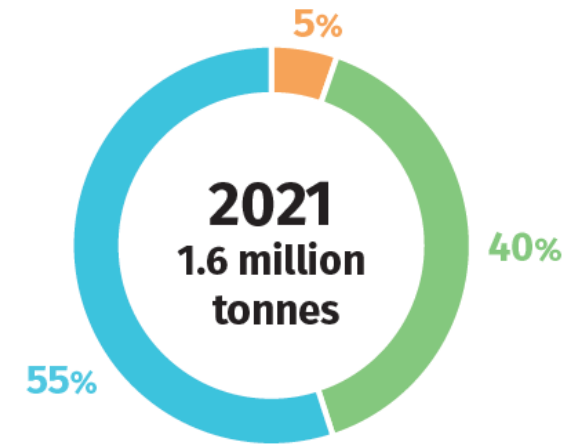
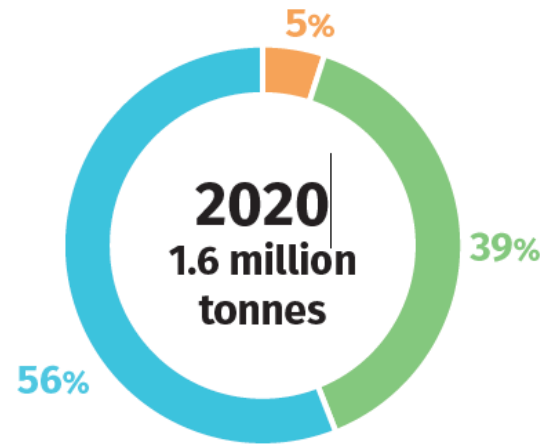
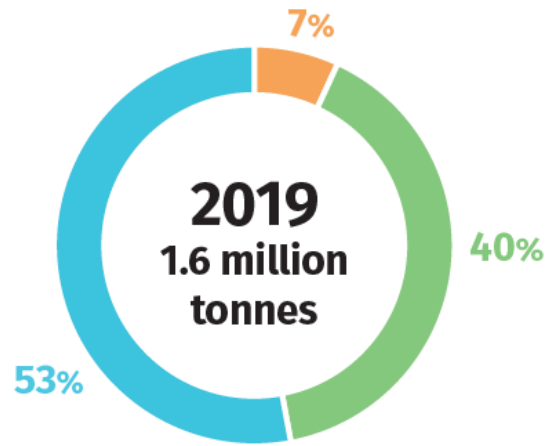
- Import of fish and fish products
- Container unloadings
- Agencies involved
- Current container inspection practices
- Next steps

# Import of fish and fisheries products

- ❑ All importers of fish and fisheries products are licensed by SFA
- ❑ Inspections are based on risk assessment on food safety of products
  - Hold and test
  - Test and release
- ❑ Importers are required to arrange for SFA's inspection based on the approval codes on the import permits

## Overview of Imports of Commonly Consumed Food by Mode of Transport

■ Air
 ■ Road
 ■ Sea



## Import Quantities by Food Type

### Seafood



Extracted from Singapore Food Statistics, 2021

([https://www.sfa.gov.sg/files/SingaporeFoodStatistics/SFA\\_SingaporeFoodStatistics1/mobile/index.html](https://www.sfa.gov.sg/files/SingaporeFoodStatistics/SFA_SingaporeFoodStatistics1/mobile/index.html))

# Container Unloadings

- ❑ Imported containers\* are unloaded at -
  - PSA Singapore Terminals
    - Tanjong Pagar, Keppel, Brani, Pasir Panjang
  - Jurong Port



**\*Containers are tracked by their serial number and serial number on the seal of the containers**

# Agencies involved



- ❑ Maritime and Port Authority of Singapore (MPA)
  - Regulates all cargo vessels, including container ships
  
- ❑ Singapore Customs
  - Regulates all cargo entering Singapore
  - Conducts selective customs supervision for unstuffing transshipment containers and import containers to ensure compliance with regulatory requirements such as accurate declaration
  
- ❑ Immigrations & Checkpoints Authority
  - Stationed at the checkpoints
  - Inspects cargo vessels for contrabands
  
- ❑ Singapore Food Agency
  - Regulates food safety and ensures food supply resilience
  - Approval of permits (Import/Export/Re-export/Transshipment/Transit)

# Current Container Inspection Practices

- ❑ While Singapore agencies' inspect containers, for IUUF, we are aligned with PSMA and hence such inspections are currently excluded
  - *Article 3 of PSMA - container vessels that are not carrying fish or, if carrying fish, only fish that have been previously landed, provided that there are no clear grounds for suspecting that such vessels have engaged in fishing related activities in support of IUU fishing.*
- ❑ However, if a container is suspected of carrying IUUF, Singapore/SFA will relay information such as the container number and ship details to the next port of call/final port of call where the container will be unloaded.

# Next steps

- ❑ In support to combat IUUF, Singapore is currently reviewing our legislation to include legal levers for agencies to inspect and enforce on IUUF
  
- ❑ Strengthen intel gathering and collaboration with other agencies to tackle -
  - Lack of Information declared by importers/vessels/freight forwarder/shipping agents
  - Multiple stakeholders involved in the declaration of permits and information for containerized vessels
  - Issue on verifying information and securing evidences of IUUF in containers



Thank you