



November 3, 2025

Chairperson Professor Taruna Ikrar  
Indonesia's Food and Drug Authority (BPOM)  
Republic of Indonesia  
Jl. Percetakan Negara No. 23  
Jakarta 10560, Indonesia

**Subject: Notice Designating a Certifying Entity for Import Certification**

Chairperson Ikrar,

The United States Food and Drug Administration (FDA) Human Foods Program (HFP) is designating Indonesia's Food and Drug Ministry (BPOM) of the Republic of Indonesia as a Certifying Entity (CE) responsible for providing shipment-specific certification that certain spice products are not contaminated with cesium-137 (Cs-137). On October 3, 2025, FDA issued [Import Alert 99-52](#), which serves as FDA's notice of intent to implement import certification for certain foods from certain regions of Indonesia under 801(q) of the Federal Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act (FD&C Act or Act) (21 U.S.C. 381(q)). Import Alert 99-52 will be updated to designate your organization, including a point of contact, as a CE to implement import certification for certain foods from certain regions of Indonesia under 801(q) of the FD&C Act (21 U.S.C. 381(q)).

**Purpose and Scope**

It is FDA's expectation that BPOM will act as a designated Certifying Entity (CE) as described in section 801(q)(3) of the FD&C Act to provide appropriate shipment-specific assurances for spice products intended for export to the U.S. under the "yellow list" as described in Import Alert 99-52.

**Responsibilities of BPOM as a Designated Certifying Entity**

The CE is responsible for providing certification, as specified herein, such that the CE will provide a mechanism for industry to obtain required screening and sampling of shipments of food covered under import certification prior to products being exported to the U.S., and will communicate and provide certification to FDA as described in Appendices 1-3.

A certifying entity (CE) is responsible for:

- **Implementing scanning and analytical protocols** for Cs-137 detection that address requirements as described in Appendix 1.
- **Following the communication protocol** to share information with FDA regarding radiation scanning and analytical results, including for any products not certified, and providing information as needed by FDA to determine that certificates of assurance are valid and reliable, as described in Appendix 2.

- **Certifying shipments and providing certificates to FDA verifying** that spice products intended for export to the U.S. meet applicable food safety requirements and are not contaminated with Cs-137; certificates will contain required data elements for FDA to identify entries subject to import certification as described in Appendix 3.

### **Implementation**

BPOM will fulfill the CE responsibilities described herein. FDA and BPOM will continue to work together to resolve and improve technical and operational procedures that impact implementation of the import certification. Representatives from BAPETEN, BRIN, or other individuals identified by the Indonesian government as appropriate may participate in technical discussions with FDA to ensure the safety of spices exported to the U.S., thereby providing consumer protection while facilitating trade.

### **Collaborative Information Exchange**

FDA anticipates continuing to share information with BPOM regarding other products (not covered under import certification) if FDA identifies possible contamination with Cs-137 within the CE's jurisdiction. FDA requests BPOM commit to sharing similar information in order to ensure adequate protection of the public health. The attached appendices may be updated periodically, such as to accommodate alternative screening details, methods, communication protocols or other aspects of import certification.

Sincerely,

Donald A. Prater, DVM  
Principal Deputy Director for Human Foods  
Program  
U.S. Food and Drug Administration

### **Appendices:**

- Appendix 1 BPOM Procedures for Radionuclide Scanning and Product Testing (Dated: October 31, 2025)
- Appendix 2 BPOM Communication Protocols & Verification Practices for Cesium-137 (Cs-137) Detection, (Dated: October 31, 2025)
- Appendix 3 BPOM Required Data Elements & Submission of Certificates (Dated: October 31, 2025)