

- b. periodically evaluate certified MSSP laboratories to verify compliance with the NSSP and maintain laboratory quality assurance procedures;
 - c. maintain a marine biotoxin monitoring program for growing areas where molluscan shellfish are harvested for export to the United States of America;
 - d. maintain a split-sample program among MSSP laboratories for evaluating uniform microbiological laboratory practices;
 - e. notify FDA of laboratories not in compliance with the NSSP; and
 - f. prevent MSSP laboratories not in compliance with the NSSP from participating in the MSSP.
- 4. COFEPRIS should update the MSSP Model Ordinance to be consistent with published NSSP Model Ordinance revisions. COFEPRIS should provide an English version of all updates to FDA for review and concurrence.
 - 5. Any change in responsibility from COFEPRIS to another authority must be reported to FDA within 30 days of such change. A change from COFEPRIS to a new authority may require re-evaluation of the MSSP by FDA.
 - 6. Mexican states governments participating in the MSSP are equally responsible for ensuring the safety and quality of molluscan shellfish exported to the United States of America.

B. RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE FDA

FDA intends to:

- 1. Accept the United Mexican States as a participant in the NSSP and the Interstate Shellfish Sanitation Conference (ISSC), cooperative research programs, seminars, training courses, and other NSSP activities and have COFEPRIS certify Mexican processors for inclusion in FDA's ICSSL.
- 2. Publish the names, locations, and certification numbers of Mexican firms certified by COFEPRIS in the monthly publication of the ICSSL upon receipt of Form FD-3038.
- 3. Provide training and technical assistance to COFEPRIS, subject to the availability of funds and personnel for such purposes.
- 4. Inform COFEPRIS of the reasons for any detention of certified molluscan shellfish shipments from the United Mexican States.
- 5. Participate with COFEPRIS in joint evaluations of the MSSP. Joint evaluations will be conducted to ascertain the level of conformity with the requirements of the NSSP and