CÔTE D'IVOIRE

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The continental shelf off Côte d'Ivoire is narrow and stocks are not plentiful in the warm waters. By tonnage, mackerel, tuna, sardinella, grunts and croakers are the predominant commercial marine species. Lagoon and artesanal fisheries exploit shrimp, sardinella, lapianotus and other local saltwater species. Côte d'Ivoire is an good long-term market for large volumes of underutilized fish species. Mackerel and herring seem to offer the best opportunities for sales, although there may be possibilities for other species provided long term promotional efforts are undertaken. The main demand is for low-value, fatty species with preferred minimum fat content in the 18-20 percent range for general public consumption. Fish are imported frozen and sold to hawkers who sell the fish either smoked or fresh. Canadian firms must have a capacity to operate in French and be prepared to handle large orders at low prices. Long term exploitation of this market opportunity may require firms to examine one or all of the following factors to ensure competitiveness: costs and product characteristics resulting from Canadian harvesting practices; export consortia or joint marketing techniques; Canadian warehousing capacities; shipping arrangements; credit practices; joint ventures; and established marketing structures and practices. Canadian exporters should pay close attention to the language and established packaging forms in the trade.

MAJOR CÔTE D'IVOIRE SEAFOOD IMPORTERS

AFRIC INTER FREEZE 15 BP 318, Abidjan 15, Contact: Mr. Joseph Fontana Telex: 42313 Products: fish and seafood

COFRAL 05, BP 844, Abidjan 05 Contact: Mr. Jean-Francois Amida Telex: 42415 Products: fish and seafood

IMPAC 18, BP 1242, Abidjan 18, Contact: Mr. Mohamed Khachab Products: fish and seafood

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION:

Canadian Embassy Immeuble Trade-Center, 23, rue Nogues, C.P. 4104, Le Plateau, Abidjan 01, République de Côte d'Ivoire Tel:(011-225) 32-20-09 Telex: 23593 Fax:(011-225) 32-77-28 Mr. Roch Ledoux Counsellor (Commercial)

IMPROMER

07, BP 318, Abidjan 07, Contact: Mr. Sami Moukarzel Telex: 42201 Products: fish and seafood

PROMOFROID

01, BP 3877, Abidjan 01, Contact: Mr. Deschamps Telex: 42225 Products: fish and seafood

SIVCOGE 01 BP 3348, Abidjan 01, Contact: Mr. Hotait Hadi Telex: 42412 or 43367 Products: fish and seafood