

**Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures**

**DECISION TO EXTEND THE PROVISIONAL PROCEDURE TO MONITOR THE  
PROCESS OF INTERNATIONAL HARMONIZATION**

The Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures,

*Having regard to* Articles 3.5 and 12.4 of the Agreement on the Application of Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures;

*Taking into account* the provisional procedure to monitor the use of international standards adopted by the Committee at its meeting of 15-16 October 1997 (G/SPS/11); the Committee's decision of 8 July 1999 to extend this provisional procedure for a further 24 months, and to decide by July 2001 whether to continue with the same procedure, amend it or develop another one (G/SPS/14);

*Considering* that in reviewing the operation of the provisional procedure, it has noted that the procedure provided an effective mechanism for Members to raise specific standards-related issues;

*Considering* the discussion at its meeting of 10-11 July 2001;

*Decides as follows:*

1. The provisional procedure to monitor the use of international standards, as modified, is extended for a further 24 months.
  2. The Committee will review the operation of the provisional procedure by July 2003, with a view to deciding then whether to continue with the same procedure, amend it or develop another one.
  3. The Committee encourages Members to make use of this procedure to address their concerns regarding specific international standards or the need for such standards.
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