

**DECLARATION OF MEXICO AS AN AREA FREE  
FROM AVIAN SALMONELLOSIS**

Communication from Mexico

The following communication, dated 17 August 2012, is being circulated at the request of the delegation Mexico.

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1. Pursuant to Article 7 of the Agreement on the Application of Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures and paragraph 3(b) of Annex B thereto, Mexico hereby advises WTO Members that the **Decision declaring the United Mexican States as an area free from avian salmonellosis (*Salmonella pullorum* and *Salmonella gallinarum*)** was published in the *Diario Oficial de la Federación* (Mexican Official Journal) on 14 August 2012.

2. The notified Decision declares the territory of the United Mexican States to be free from avian salmonellosis (*S. pullorum* and *S. gallinarum*), given that the etiological agent of avian salmonellosis caused by *S. pullorum* has not been detected since 1989, and that same year, *S. gallinarum* was eradicated. The technical data obtained through the sanitary measures that were taken confirm that effective epidemiological surveillance and prevention and eradication activities were conducted, with the collection of organ and swab samples from both industrial and backyard poultry farms, as well as slaughterhouses at the national level. These samples were processed in official laboratories as well as in a number of laboratories approved for the diagnosis of avian salmonellosis (*S. pullorum* and *S. gallinarum*), and no bacteriological evidence of the disease was found. This confirms the absence from the territory of Mexico of the etiological agent of avian salmonellosis (*S. pullorum* and *S. gallinarum*).

3. This Decision is being published in order to provide certainty and to strengthen free trade and access to domestic and international markets for both live poultry and the products and byproducts of the national poultry sector. To ensure that the territory of Mexico remains free from avian salmonellosis (*S. pullorum* and *S. gallinarum*), we shall continue with our prevention, diagnosis and surveillance activities for this disease in accordance with the national guidelines for surveillance.

4. The Decision is available in Spanish at: <http://www.dof.gob.mx>, [http://www.dof.gob.mx/nota\\_detalle.php?codigo=5263962&fecha=14/08/2012](http://www.dof.gob.mx/nota_detalle.php?codigo=5263962&fecha=14/08/2012) or from the National Enquiry Point (normasomc@economia.gob.mx).

5. Lastly, Mexico wishes to state that this communication is being made for the purposes of transparency, without prejudice to the country's rights and obligations under the SPS Agreement.

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