

**DECLARATION OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF SAYULA, JALISCO, AS AN AREA
FREE FROM AVOCADO SEED WEEVILS AND MOTHS**

Communication from Mexico

The following communication, received on 5 December 2012, is being circulated at the request of the delegation of Mexico.

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 municipality of Sayula, Jalisco, to be an area free from the large avocado seed weevil (*Heilipus lauri*), the small avocado seed weevil (*Conotrachelus aguacatae* and *C. perseae*) and the avocado seed moth (*Stenoma catenifer*)**, was published in the *Diario Oficial de la Federación* (Mexican Official Journal) on 30 November 2012.

2. The notified Decision declares the municipality of Sayula, Jalisco, to be an area free from the large avocado seed weevil (*Heilipus lauri*), the small avocado seed weevil (*Conotrachelus aguacatae* and *C. perseae*) and the avocado seed moth (*Stenoma catenifer*) following the introduction of phytosanitary measures to determine the absence of these pests. These measures were based on phytosanitary status assessments and taken in accordance with the procedures indicated in Mexican Official Standard NOM-066-FITO-2002 establishing specifications for the phytosanitary management and movement of avocados and Mexican Official Standard NOM-069-FITO-1995 on the establishment and recognition of pest-free areas.

3. The Decision was published in order to ensure that the municipality of Sayula, Jalisco, remains an area free from the large avocado seed weevil (*Heilipus lauri*), the small avocado seed weevil (*Conotrachelus aguacatae* and *C. perseae*) and the avocado seed moth (*Stenoma catenifer*). The recognition of this municipality as an area free from these pests will contribute to the objective of improving the phytosanitary status of avocado-growing areas in Mexico and strengthen the domestic and international avocado trade.

4. The Decision is available in Spanish at <http://www.dof.gob.mx> and http://www.dof.gob.mx/nota_detalle.php?codigo=5280838&fecha=30/11/2012 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.