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Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures

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**PERU: COUNTRY FREE FROM CITRUS BLACK SPOT, SWEET ORANGE SCAB,
CITRUS CANCKER, CITRUS VARIEGATED CHLOROSIS,
CITRUS LEPROSIS AND HUANGLONGBING**

COMMUNICATION FROM PERU

The following communication, dated 25 April 2013, is being circulated at the request of the delegation of Peru.

1. Citrus growing in Peru has expanded considerably since the 1990s: in 2013 Peru became the fourth largest citrus producer in the southern hemisphere after Brazil, South Africa and Argentina. In 2012, some 70,000 hectares were producing citrus fruit, in particular key lime, mandarins and their hybrids (chiefly Satsuma, Minneola Tangelo and Murcott), as well as Navel and Valencia oranges.

2. In 1996, Peru's National Agrarian Health Service (SENASA) launched a survey of pests affecting citrus crops at the national level in order to confirm the absence of three quarantine pests, *Guignardia citricarpa* (citrus black spot), *Elsinoe australis* (sweet orange scab) and *Xanthomonas axonopodis* pv. *citri* (citrus canker). The objective was to gain access to various foreign markets by providing technical evidence of the absence of these pests, which are the subject of international trade regulations.

3. Through the National Phytosanitary Surveillance System (SINAVIF), SENASA has continued the survey of citrus quarantine pests and has submitted more than 27,000 samples for laboratory diagnosis without detecting any of the three aforementioned quarantine pests. At the same time, the surveillance activities confirmed the absence of citrus variegated chlorosis (*Xylella fastidiosa*) and citrus leprosis (*Citrus leprosis Virus-CiLV*).

4. Since 2009, there has been a phytosanitary alert accompanied by preventive activities aimed at ensuring the timely detection of Huanglongbing (*Candidatus Liberibacter spp*) and its vectors (*Diaphorina citri* and *Trioza erytreae*), quarantine pests that are not found in Peru. In 2013, the Phytosanitary Alert and Emergency Response Unit was set up in order to deal with any outbreaks of these pests that might occur.

5. Peruvian citrus fruit is exported to a number of countries in America, Europe and Asia in compliance with the phytosanitary requirements of the importing countries, and none of these quarantine pests have been detected. The main destinations are the United Kingdom, Holland, the United States and Canada.

6. SENASA's national surveillance activities in the citrus growing areas help to support domestic producers and act as a guarantee of phytosanitary quality for the countries to which Peruvian citrus fruit is exported.

7. In March 2003, the member countries of the Andean Community issued Resolution No. 703 recognizing Peru as free from the citrus pests *Guignardia citricarpa* (citrus black spot), *Elsinoe australis* (sweet orange scab) and *Xanthomonas axonopodis* pv. *citri* (citrus canker). In April 2003, Peru circulated a submission (G/SPS/GEN/386) indicating that the country was free from these quarantine pests.

8. Accordingly, we hereby notify Peru's status as free from the following citrus quarantine pests: *Guignardia citricarpa* (citrus black spot), *Elsinoe australis* (sweet orange scab), *Xanthomonas axonopodis* pv. *citri* (citrus canker), citrus variegated chlorosis (*Xylella fastidiosa*), citrus leprosis (*Citrus leprosis Virus-CiLV*) and Huanglongbing (*Candidatus Liberibacter spp*) and its vectors (*Diaphorina citri* and *Trioza erytreae*).
