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Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures

Original: Spanish

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

COMMUNICATION FROM MEXICO

The following communication, dated 18 July 2013, 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 Purépero, Michoacán, 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 15 July 2013.

2. The notified Decision declares the municipality of Purépero, Michoacán, 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*) 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, following the introduction of phytosanitary measures to determine the absence of these pests based on phytosanitary status assessments.

3. The Decision was published in order to ensure that the municipality of Purépero, Michoacán, remains an area free from avocado seed weevils and moths in accordance with the procedures set out in point 4, first paragraph, and points 4.4.4, 4.5.1, 4.5.2, 4.5.3, 4.8.1, 4.8.2, 4.8.3, and 4.8.4 of Mexican Official Standard NOM-066-FITO-2002 establishing specifications for the phytosanitary management and movement of avocados, as well as those indicated in point 4.4(c), (d) and (f) of Mexican Official Standard NOM-069-FITO-1995 on the establishment and recognition of pest-free areas.

4. The recognition of Purépero, Michoacán, as an area free from these pests will help with the marketing of avocados grown in the Municipality, and will thus have a positive impact on avocado production.

5. The Decision is available in Spanish at <http://www.dof.gob.mx> and http://www.dof.gob.mx/nota_detalle.php?codigo=5306651&fecha=15/07/2013, or from the National Enquiry Point (normasomc@economia.gob.mx).

6. 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.
