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Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures

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**ENCOURAGEMENT TO ELIMINATE THE USE OF NON-ECOFRIENDLY METHYL BROMIDE  
IN PHYTOSANITARY TREATMENTS**

COMMUNICATION BY INDONESIA

The following communication, received on 3 October 2013, is being circulated at the request of the Delegation of Indonesia.

1. On 21-25 November 2011, the Parties to the Montreal Protocol held the 23<sup>rd</sup> Meeting on Quarantine and Pre-shipment Uses of Methyl Bromide in Bali. In the meeting, both organizations of the United Nations, FAO on behalf of the International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC) and the Ozone Secretariat of United Nations Environment Program (UNEP), endorsed the Memorandum of Understanding on issues related to methyl bromide (UNEP/OzL.Pro.WG.1/32/INF/3).
2. One of the recommendations adopted by the Commission on Phytosanitary Measures (CPM) in 2008 related to the replacement or reduction of the use of methyl bromide as a phytosanitary measure. The replacement of methyl bromide is recommended due to its negative impact as an ozone depleting substance.
3. Indonesia uses alternative phytosanitary treatments in its pre-shipment applications as replacements of methyl bromide, in line with its commitment as a member of IPPC, using heat treatments, hot water treatments, phosphine and gamma-ray irradiation. Indonesia also applies the best fumigation practices in its phytosanitary treatments, particularly regarding the application of methyl bromide, for achievement of phytosanitary effectiveness.
4. In the 45<sup>th</sup> Regular Meeting of the WTO SPS Committee, Indonesia had declared its free status with respect to Khapra beetle (*Trogoderma granarium*) in the territory of Indonesia after total eradication and pest surveillance programmes since 1983 (G/SPS/GEN/946).
5. Indonesia encourages WTO Members to apply environmentally-based phytosanitary treatments, without using high doses of methyl bromide. The published fumigation schedule using methyl bromide indicates a maximum dose of 64 gr/m<sup>3</sup> for quarantine pre-shipment treatments at low temperature. In the tropical countries, doses of methyl bromide at less than 64 gr/m<sup>3</sup> still provide effective treatment.
6. Indonesia suggests that the phytosanitary requirements of Brazil and Malaysia, requiring use of methyl bromide at the high dose of 80 gr/m<sup>3</sup> for a number of agricultural products from Indonesia, should not be maintained in order to save the future of the environment.
7. Finally, the National Plant Protection Organization (NPPO) of Indonesia emphasizes that all trading partners of Indonesia should respect the commitment to replace or to reduce the use of non-ecofriendly methyl bromide.