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Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures

Original: Spanish

**DECLARATION OF AREAS FREE OF MEDITERRANEAN FRUIT FLY  
(*CERATITIS CAPITATA* WIED) AND OTHER FRUIT FLIES**

**COMMUNICATION FROM GUATEMALA**

The following communication, dated 3 October 2013, is being circulated at the request of the delegation of Guatemala.

1. Pursuant to Article 7 of the Agreement on the Application of Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures and paragraph 3(b) of Annex B thereto, Guatemala hereby notifies WTO Members that two Ministerial Decisions concerning compliance with Article 6 of that Agreement ("Adaptation to Regional Conditions, Including Pest- or Disease-Free Areas and Areas of Low Pest or Disease Prevalence") have been published.

2. The purpose of Ministerial Decision No. 84-2011<sup>1</sup> is to declare the following municipalities to be areas free of Mediterranean fruit fly (*Ceratitidis capitata* Wied) and other fruit flies of the genera *Anastrepha* spp., *Dacus* spp. and *Bactrocera* spp.:

(a) in the department of Totonicapán: San Cristóbal Totonicapán, San Francisco El Alto, San Andrés Xecul, Totonicapán, Santa María Chiquimula and Momostenango;

(b) in the department of Quetzaltenango: San Francisco La Unión, San Miguel Sigila, La Esperanza Cajola, Orientepeque, Salcaja, San Mateo, Concepción Chiquirichapa, Almolonga, Cantel, Sibilia, Quetzaltenango, San Carlos Sija, San Juan Ostuncalco, Huitàn, Palestina de los Altos and San Martín Sacatepéquez; and

(c) in the department of Sololá: Nahuala and Santa Catalina Ixtahuacán.

3. The purpose of Ministerial Decision No. 01-2011<sup>2</sup> is to declare the following municipalities in the department of Huehuetenango to be areas free of Mediterranean fruit fly (*Ceratitidis capitata* Wied): Nentón, San Antonio Huista, Santa Ana Huista, Jacaltenango, San Sebastián Coatan, San Miguel Acatan, San Rafael la Independencia, Concepción Huista, Todos los Santos Cuchumatán and San Mateo Ixtatán.

4. Both Ministerial Decisions are based on the provisions of the Law on Animal and Plant Health (Decree No. 38-98) and its implementing regulations and were issued by the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Food in the exercise of its one of its core functions. As a result, areas free of Mediterranean fruit fly (*Ceratitidis capitata* Wied) and other fruit flies have increased. This is necessary to promote the production and export of fruit and vegetables in both of the regions concerned. To this end, the provisions of Ministerial Decision No. 191-2007 of 27 March 2007 establishing regulations and procedures for areas, sites and orchards free

<sup>1</sup> Declaration of various municipalities in the departments of Totonicapán, Quetzaltenango and Sololá in the Republic of Guatemala (71,000 hectares in total) as areas free of Mediterranean fruit fly (*Ceratitidis capitata* Wied) and other fruit flies of the genera *Anastrepha* spp., *Dacus* spp. and *Bactrocera* spp.

<sup>2</sup> Declaration of the municipalities of Nentón, San Antonio Huista, Santa Ana Huista, Jacaltenango, San Sebastián Coatan, San Miguel Acatan, San Rafael la Independencia, Concepción Huista, Todos los Santos Cuchumatán and San Mateo Ixtatán in the department of Huehuetenango in the Republic of Guatemala as areas free of Mediterranean fruit fly (*Ceratitidis capitata* Wied).

of Mediterranean fruit fly (*Ceratitis capitata* Wied) and with a low prevalence of this pest have been applied.

5. The Ministerial Agreements are available in Spanish at: <http://visar.maga.gob.gt>.

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

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