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Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures

Original: Spanish

**DECLARATION OF THE STATE OF SONORA AS AN AREA  
FREE FROM THE TICK *BOOPHILUS* SPP.**

COMMUNICATION FROM MEXICO

The following communication, dated 15 October 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 state of Sonora to be an area free from the tick *Boophilus* spp. was published in the Mexican Official Journal (*Diario Oficial de la Federación*) on 8 October 2013.
2. The notified Decision declares the territory of the state of Sonora to be an area free from the tick *Boophilus* spp., in accordance with the objectives and procedures in the Decision establishing the national campaign for the control of the tick *Boophilus* spp.
3. The Decision was published in order to ensure that the state of Sonora remains free from the tick *Boophilus* spp., in accordance with the sanitary measures pertaining to diagnosis, prevention, control, epidemiological surveillance, movement control, transport, transit, marketing and cattle traceability, contained in Articles 5, 12, 14, 15, 17, 32, 33 and 39 of the Decision establishing the national campaign for the control of the tick *Boophilus* spp. and in the relevant regulations in force.
4. The recognition of the state of Sonora as an area free from the tick *Boophilus* spp. provides certainty and ensures free transit and market access for both cattle and cattle products, which will have a positive impact on cattle production in the state of Sonora, making it more competitive and profitable.
5. The Decision is available in Spanish at <http://www.dof.gob.mx> and [http://www.dof.gob.mx/nota\\_detalle.php?codigo=5317179&fecha=08/10/2013](http://www.dof.gob.mx/nota_detalle.php?codigo=5317179&fecha=08/10/2013), or from the National Enquiry Point ([normasomc@economia.gob.mx](mailto: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.