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Page: 1/1

Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures

Original: Spanish

**DECLARATION OF THE UNITED MEXICAN STATES AS AN AREA FREE FROM
MEDITERRANEAN FRUIT FLY *CERATITIS CAPITATA* (WIEDEMANN)**

COMMUNICATION FROM MEXICO

The following communication, dated 28 November 2014, 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 United Mexican States to be an area free from the Mediterranean fruit fly *Ceratitidis capitata* (Wiedemann) was published in the *Diario Oficial de la Federación* (Mexican Official Journal) on 30 October 2014.

2. The Decision declares the United Mexican States to be an area free from the Mediterranean fruit fly *Ceratitidis capitata* (Wiedemann), in accordance with the procedures set out in Mexican Official Standard NOM-069-FITO-1995 "Establishment and recognition of pest-free areas"; Mexican Official Standard NOM-076-FITO-1999 "National emergency and prevention system against exotic fruit fly"; Regional Standard for Phytosanitary Measures (RSPM) No. 17 "Guidelines for the establishment, maintenance and verification of fruit fly pest-free areas in North America" of the North American Plant Protection Organization (NAPPO); International Standard for Phytosanitary Measures (ISPM) No. 26 "Establishment of pest-free areas for fruit flies (*Tephritidae*)" and ISPM No. 29 "Recognition of pest-free areas and areas of low pest prevalence".

3. This Decision is being published in order to ensure that the United Mexican States remains free from the Mediterranean fruit fly *Ceratitidis capitata* (Wiedemann). It establishes the phytosanitary measures that must be applied to prevent the introduction of, and maintain the area free from, this pest, in accordance with Mexican Official Standard NOM-076-FITO-1999 "National emergency and prevention system against exotic fruit fly".

4. The recognition of Mexico as an area free from the Mediterranean fruit fly *Ceratitidis capitata* (Wiedemann) will have a positive impact on more than 1.8 million hectares of the country's 15 major fruit and vegetable crops.

5. The Decision is available in Spanish at <http://www.dof.gob.mx> and http://www.dof.gob.mx/nota_detalle.php?codigo=5366314&fecha=30/10/2014 and from the National Enquiry Point (normasomc@economia.gob.mx).

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