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Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures

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**END OF THE SUSPENSION OF VACCINATION
AGAINST CLASSICAL SWINE FEVER (CSF)
AT NATIONAL LEVEL**

COMMUNICATION FROM GUATEMALA

The following communication, received on 23 October 2015, is being circulated at the request of the delegation of Guatemala.

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1. Guatemala wishes to inform WTO Members that it is working hard to establish sanitary and phytosanitary measures that will improve the country's agricultural sector and diversify and enhance its export supply, thus stimulating rural development.
 2. This communication includes details of the technical provisions that have made it possible to suspend vaccination against Classical Swine Fever (CSF) on the basis of Ministerial Decision No. 655-2004.
 3. In 2004, under the Programme for the Prevention, Control and Eradication of Classical Swine Fever, the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Food (MAGA) and the pig-farming sector agreed on the steps to be taken to implement the "*eradication phase without vaccination for Classical Swine Fever*". This was done in accordance with the guidelines that had been drawn up and approved for this purpose by the Animal Health Directorate of the Vice-Ministry of Agricultural Health and Regulations (VISAR) in line with the relevant international bodies.
 4. As a result, the country was officially declared to be in a phase of CSF eradication without vaccination. The eradication phase began on 1 November 2014 and will end on 31 October 2015.
 5. All the above was conducted in accordance with the procedures established by the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE).
 6. In this light, Guatemala wishes to advise that the vaccination suspension phase will end on 31 October 2015. No signs of infection have been detected and no vaccination against CSF has been administered in the last 12 months.
 7. This programme will enable the country's pig-farming sector to develop and will enhance its presence in international trade.
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