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Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures

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**RAISING AWARENESS ON IPPC AND OIE DISPUTE SETTLEMENT/
AVOIDANCE MECHANISMS**

COMMUNICATION FROM ISRAEL

The following communication, received on 23 June 2016, is being circulated at the request of the Delegation of Israel.

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1. Looking at current and unresolved specific trade concerns, we have been exploring possible ways so as to both increase the number of cases that are resolved and, at the same time, reduce the workload of the Committee.
 2. We would like to point out the fact that two of the three sisters, the IPPC and OIE, have dispute settlement/avoidance mechanisms. These mechanisms, while being voluntary and non-binding, allow the issues to be discussed with the proponents and agreed specialists. They provide a middle ground for solutions that may not be clear at the outset.
 3. We are of the firm belief that these mechanisms can and should be used by Members to help resolve specific trade concerns at a scientific and technical level before, or concurrently with, the workings of the SPS Committee. Therefore, we would like to encourage Members to take this into account while submitting STCs and call on the IPPC and OIE to improve their mechanisms so as to make them more attractive to Members.
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