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Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures

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ANIMAL PRODUCTS – RECENT MEASURES IMPLEMENTED

COMMUNICATION FROM BRAZIL

Addendum

The following communication, dated 14 July 2017, is being circulated at the request of the delegation of Brazil.

1. The Brazilian delegation would like to provide an update on the actions taken on irregular practices involving misconduct of some private and public agents. After the facts were thoroughly checked and investigated, the Ministry of Agriculture had taken two important actions in addition to those that were communicated to the SPS Committee at the March meeting (G/SPS/GEN/1545):

- First, the Sanitary Inspection Regulation (RIISPOA) was updated with the objective to fight economic fraud and improve food safety. The new regulation establishes severe penalties for irregularities ranging from heavy fines to losing of the federal inspection approval seal (SIF), in case of persisted non-compliances;
- Second, the Ministry of Agriculture established the "Compliance Program", with the objective of enhancing the mechanism to prevent and correct misconduct. Private companies in the agribusiness sector may enroll in the program and be certified with the AGRO+ INTEGRIDADE seal.

2. It is important to stress that the irregularities identified were related to economic fraud and did not compromise the safety and quality of the products consumed in Brazil and exported to other markets. We therefore remain confident that our sanitary controls are robust and trustworthy and we thank our trade partners that have expressed confidence in our system by keeping their markets open to our animal products.

3. It should be emphasized that the identified non conformities did not pose a risk to consumers' health nor put in question the efficiency of the control systems. The lessons learned in this case were useful in the process of updating and improving our inspection regulation.
