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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, received on 3 October 2018, is being circulated at the request of the delegation of Mexico.

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1. Pursuant to Article 6 of the Agreement on the Application of Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures on the subject of regional conditions, including pest- or disease-free areas or areas of low pest or disease prevalence, and in keeping with the principle of transparency, we hereby notify the Decision declaring the United Mexican States to be an area free from Mediterranean fruit fly *Ceratitis capitata* (Wiedemann). The Decision was published in the *Diario Oficial de la Federación* (Mexican Official Journal) on 6 September 2018.
 2. The Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, Rural Development, Fisheries and Food (SAGARPA), acting through the National Agriculture and Food Health, Safety and Quality Service, has the power to declare areas free of pests or diseases on the basis of the results of sampling in specific geographical areas and the proven certainty that no plant pests are present.
 3. The phytosanitary measures to be applied in order to prevent pests and protect pest free areas are provided for in Mexican Official Standard NOM-076-FITO-1999 "National Emergency and Prevention System Against Exotic Fruit Fly".
 4. This Decision will remain in effect for 24 months after its entry into force, as set out in the last paragraph of Article 106 of the Regulation implementing the Federal Law on Plant Health. The Decision entered into force on the day following its publication in the Official Journal.
 5. WTO Members are asked to use the Decision as a reference in their commercial dealings.
 6. This communication is being submitted for purposes of transparency and in order to provide Members with further information on the current regulatory process in Mexico.
 7. The document is available at:
http://www.dof.gob.mx/nota_detalle.php?codigo=5537063&fecha=06/09/2018.
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