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Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures

Original: Spanish

CHANGE TO FORMAT FOR ANIMAL HEALTH EXPORT CERTIFICATES

COMMUNICATION FROM MEXICO

The following communication, dated 9 October 2019, is being circulated at the request of the delegation of Mexico.

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1. Pursuant to Article 7 ("Transparency") of the Agreement on the Application of Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures on the subject of notifying Members of the changes to sanitary and phytosanitary measures, and for compliance purposes, we hereby notify the different changes to the animal health export certificate (CZE), which will enter into force on 1 November 2019.
 2. The bodies responsible for ensuring compliance in Mexico are the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (SADER) and the National Agriculture and Food Health, Safety and Quality Service (SENASICA).
 3. The products covered are live animals; products and by-products of animal origin; and chemical, pharmaceutical, biological and food products for animal use or consumption.
 4. The regions or countries likely to be affected are all trading partners.
 5. Please be advised that the current name of the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (SADER) has been reflected in the documentation produced by this authority. However, in the case of animal health export certificates (CZE), this change will be implemented as from 1 November 2019.
 6. It should be noted that since the staff issuing these certificates may be directly attached to SADER or SENASICA, a decentralized body of SADER, the documents will bear the corresponding stamp (Annexes 1(a) and 1(b)).
 7. SENASICA is also in the process of transitioning to the full implementation of the Mexican Digital Window for Foreign Trade (VDMCE). Through this digital window, CZE's are issued for live animals, their products and by-products, and chemical, pharmaceutical, biological and food products for animal use or consumption in a format consistent with international standards so that exporters may submit, at the checkpoint of entry to different countries, both CZE formats generated through the VDMCE (updated version attached for reference; Annexes 2(a), 2(b) and 2(c)) and the SINARCERT WEB system (Annexes 3(a), 3(b) and 3(c)).
 8. It is important to note that the VDMCE provides for the measures described below, which ensures greater certitude during the certification process:
 - Electronic signatures: Both exporters upon submitting their application and staff upon issuing CZE's affix their electronic signatures.

9. Two-dimensional code containing the following information:

- (a) Folio number
- (b) Date of issuance
- (c) the exporter's Federal Register of Taxpayers (RFC)
- (d) Business name or name of exporter
- (e) Customs
- (f) Destination country
- (g) Procedure for the good
- (h) Type of certificate
- (i) Combination
- (j) Total quantity of goods
- (k) Unit of measurement
- (l) Name of the issuing office
- (m) Name of the issuing official veterinarian
- (n) Name, trade name or business name of the establishment of origin
- (o) Name, trade name or business name of the establishment of destination
- (p) Name, trade name or business name of the establishment

10. Language: The certificate template may be printed in Spanish, English and/or French. Where more than one language is used, the numbering should be adjusted into consecutive order, indicating the total number of pages included in the printed certificates in the different languages. For example: (page number 1-6, 2-6, 3-6, etc.).

11. It should be noted that, in the event any incident arises in the VDMCE system, exporters may submit a different CZE format issued by another of our systems, SINACERT WEB (Annexes 3(a), 3(b) and 3(c)), in order to ensure the entry of the good into each corresponding destination country, thus avoiding delays of the good at points of entry.

12. In addition, if an interest is expressed, access codes to the VDMCE system may be provided to the importing country's sanitary authorities, so that they may consult the certificates issued by the system, enabling them to confirm their authenticity. See examples of CZE's, stamps and signatures.

13. WTO Members are asked to use this change to the format of animal health export certificates in their commercial dealings with Mexico.

14. 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.

15. Documents (Annexes) available at:
<https://drive.google.com/open?id=18exeWKH7JQpm7b24z22zWbccUd7r3W6g>.

Any observations or comments may be addressed to the contact point in Mexico:

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