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Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures

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**OIE RECOGNITION OF SIX BRAZILIAN STATES AS FREE FROM
FOOT-AND-MOUTH DISEASE WITHOUT VACCINATION**

WTO SPS COMMITTEE - OPERATION AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE SPS AGREEMENT
PEST- AND DISEASE-FREE AREAS (REGIONALIZATION)

COMMUNICATION FROM BRAZIL

The following document, received on 13 July 2021, is being circulated at the request of the Delegation of Brazil.

1.1. Through this communication, Brazil informs the Committee that, through Resolution 13/2021, adopted on 27 May by the 88th General Session of the World Assembly of OIE delegates, another part of Brazil's territory has been recognized as free from Food-and-Mouth Disease (FMD) without vaccination. This expansion covers six Brazilian States:

- State of Paraná;
- State of Rio Grande do Sul;
- One zone (Block 1) including the States of Acre and Rondônia and 14 municipalities in the State of Amazonas and five municipalities in the State of Mato Grosso.

1.2. These six states come in addition to Santa Catarina (SC), which received such a recognition by the OIE 14 years ago.

1.3. Together, the zone free from FMD without vaccination represents an area of almost 1 million km² and more than 44 million animals.

1.4. These have been established with huge protection areas ("buffer zones") based on natural and geographical barriers, official quarantine and effective animal movement control. Brazil has steadily enlarged its areas free from FMD without vaccination. The cumulative knowledge and the continuous adaptation of the regional protection systems made possible the gradual enlargement of the Brazilian FMD-free zone. The last case of FMD occurred five years ago and, since 2018, all the country is considered free from FMD.

1.5. In line with the OIE recommendations, Brazil has spared no efforts in improving its sanitary status, which resulted in the current, highly secured, FMD-free zones. For 50 years, our Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Supply, together with the private sector, has been developing programmes to eradicate FMD. The National Strategic Plan for the Eradication and Prevention of FMD was launched in 2017 and will be fully executed until 2026. Its main objective is to create and maintain sustainable conditions to guarantee our status as a country free from FMD, as well as to broaden the free zone without vaccination.

1.6. The status granted to Brazil by the OIE is the result of a work based on scientific knowledge and recommendations formulated by the "three sisters", as the international reference bodies of the SPS Agreement.

1.7. As we take this opportunity to celebrate this achievement, we would also like to urge Members, while implementing SPS measures, to comply with the dispositions of Article 6 of SPS Agreement on regionalization. We also encourage Members to continue to support the work of the standard setting bodies and to make sure that countries apply the standards, guidelines and recommendations of the OIE, IPPC and Codex Alimentarius.
