



5 November 2021

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Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures

Original: Spanish

## RESTRICTIONS IMPOSED BY BOLIVIA ON PERUVIAN AGRICULTURAL EXPORTS

### COMMUNICATION FROM PERU

The following communication, received on 3 November 2021, is being circulated at the request of the delegation of Peru.

1. Peru would like to express before WTO Members its specific trade concern regarding the practice adopted by the Government of Bolivia involving various restrictive measures on Peruvian agricultural exports. Such measures have been recurring over the past three years on various grounds and, in practice, prevent the main products originating in Peru, such as potatoes and onions, from entering the Bolivian market.
2. In this respect, it is important to note that Peru has consistently sought an amicable and bilateral solution to this issue by requesting meetings and information regarding the technical justification for the measures applied by Bolivia.<sup>1</sup>
3. On 10 September 2021, Peruvian and Bolivian health, trade and customs authorities met on the premises of the Binational Border Service Centre (CEBAF) at Desaguadero<sup>2</sup>, where the Deputy Ministers of Foreign Trade for both countries signed an agreement in which they made various commitments, such as addressing any type of issue relating to bilateral trade in agricultural products from that date, as well as ensuring the issuance of phytosanitary permits and conducting of phytosanitary inspections at the border. However, problems surrounding the entry of Peruvian products into Bolivia persist.
4. I would also like to mention that, as part of the Peruvian Government's continued efforts to find a bilateral solution, agreements were adopted by the two countries at the meeting of the Peru-Bolivia Binational Cabinet, led by the presidents of both countries, on 30 October, where it was agreed to continue taking steps to ensure and improve trade flows, as well as to streamline SPS procedures between the two countries.
5. More specifically, Peru would like to refer to the commitment, under the commitments adopted in the Peace Plan, to "promote bilateral trade in agricultural, hydrobiological and livestock products, guaranteeing their free flow, in accordance with the sanitary regulations in force in both countries,

<sup>1</sup> Communications sent by SENASA to SENASAG:

1. Carta-0587-2021-MIDAGRI-SENASA-DSV, dated 6 October 2021;
2. Carta-0455-2021-MIDAGRI-SENASA-DSV, dated 13 August 2021;
3. Carta-0426-2021-MIDAGRI-SENASA-DSV, dated 27 July 2021;
4. Carta-0408-2021-MIDAGRI-SENASA-DSV, dated 19 July 2021;
5. Carta-0368-2021-MIDAGRI-SENASA-DSV, dated 6 July 2021.

<sup>2</sup> The CEBAF at Desaguadero is an enclosed set of facilities located in the Republic of Peru, which includes access routes, enclosures, facilities, equipment, furniture and areas necessary for the provision of the integrated control service for the flow of people, luggage, goods and means of transport, where basic and complementary services are provided to facilitate guidance, service and control in a fast and simplified manner for the user at the border entry and exit (Article 1(a) of the "Specific Agreement between the Republic of Peru and the Plurinational State of Bolivia for the Binational Border Service Centre (CEBAF) at Desaguadero").

agreeing to hold bimonthly meetings between health and trade authorities to assess trade development between the parties".

6. Peru trusts that this bilateral communication will lead to a satisfactory and permanent solution to this problem faced by our entrepreneurs in the border area, as well as by small businesses and farmers. We therefore hope that the bimonthly meetings between the two countries' health and trade authorities will enable a free flow of trade between the two countries, characterized primarily by respect, complementarity, a desire for integration and the profound links of historic ties and solidarity between our peoples and governments, with the aim of establishing a development and joint cooperation agenda.

7. Peru would like to reiterate its commitment to the strict defence of its economic and trade interests in all forums, as well as its full willingness to engage with its partners to solve any issue for their mutual benefit.

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