



8 July 2022

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Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures

Original: Spanish

**ECUADOR'S IMPORT RESTRICTIONS ON GRAPES AND ONIONS (STC NO. [498](#))**

COMMUNICATION FROM PERU

The following communication, received on 8 July 2022, is being circulated at the request of the delegation of Peru.

1. Peru would like to present to WTO Members its trade concern with respect to the restrictive measures applied by Ecuador on the reopening of access for grapes and onions from Peru.
2. With regard to onions, a bilateral technical meeting was held on 19 April 2022 between the National Agrarian Health Service (SENASA) and the Ecuadorian Agency for Plant and Animal Health Regulation and Control (AGROCALIDAD), at which the latter committed to re-establishing access for onions in July 2022. Peru therefore hopes that Ecuador will fulfil this commitment.
3. In the case of grapes, Ecuador continues to require that refrigerated transport be used to export Peruvian grapes, with one of its arguments being that the refrigeration of fruit and vegetables is the best way of keeping such foods fresh and increasing their commercial life. Moreover, AGROCALIDAD works on the basis of a study entitled "Technical aspects of the proper transport of table grapes in containers". This study concerns the transportation of grapes, from production to their arrival in the foreign target market, with the product needing to remain refrigerated for a long time during transportation until it reaches its final destination (the United States and the European Union, among others).
4. It is important to note that AGROCALIDAD does not require compliance with conditions on fruit quality or refrigerated transport for the entry and exit of grapes from other countries.
5. Peru regrets that, despite having fulfilled all the sanitary requirements imposed by Ecuador, the restrictions on access to the Ecuadorian market for Peruvian grapes remain in force, with no technical justification provided, thus violating Articles 2.2 and 5.1 of the SPS Agreement.<sup>1</sup>
6. Considering that the measures applied by Ecuador are discriminatory and violate Articles 2, 3, 5, 7 and 8 and Annexes B and C of the SPS Agreement, we ask Ecuador to:
  - a. Avoid proposing measures that violate the provisions of the SPS Agreement and the basic principles of the WTO;
  - b. Ensure that it does not disregard the technical agreements previously established;
  - c. Provide access for imports of Peruvian grapes and onions.

<sup>1</sup> Communications sent to AGROCALIDAD on the maintenance of the restrictions on onions:  
– CARTA-0047-2022-MIDAGRI-SENASA-DIAIA;  
– CARTA-0046-2022-MIDAGRI-SENASA-DIAIA.