

WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION

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Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures

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PHYTOSANITARY AND ZOOSANITARY CONVENTIONS

Submission by Chile to the Meeting of 15-16 November 1995

I. INTRODUCTION

In view of Chile's policy of open regionalism, in which international trade has grown and will increase much more, it is necessary, from the exporting standpoint, to maintain and expand existing markets through transparent phytosanitary and zoosanitary standards, with a view to stability for exports, as well to expand new markets by eliminating agricultural sanitary barriers.

From the import standpoint, it is necessary to know the agricultural sanitary situation of the countries with which agricultural trade exists or is planned, as well as the organization of the health services and other necessary information so as to be able to carry out the corresponding risk analysis with a view to avoiding the introduction of pests and diseases.

In the context of the World Trade Organization, after signing the Agreement on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures Chile considered it desirable to update or conclude new plant and animal health agreements based on the guidelines in the Agreement, so as to put the latter into practice. In scientific and technical terms, the World Trade Organization emphasizes implementation of international standards and promotes the active participation of international scientific organizations such as the Office International des Epizooties (OIE) in animal health matters, the Secretariat of the International Plant Protection Convention of the FAO in the realm of plant health, and the CODEX Alimentarius in matters relating to agro-chemical residues and tolerances in foodstuffs. Chile is a member of these international scientific organizations and always participates in their meetings. Meanwhile, Chile's technical bodies have played an active part in the development and now the operation of the Agreement on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures in agriculture.

Initially, Chile signed bilateral agreements from the export standpoint. Thus, they were primarily phytosanitary agreements concerning food and vegetables. Subsequently it became necessary to update these agreements to include the import standpoint, as well as adding an animal health component.

In addition to the aspects mentioned at the start of this document, these agreements are aimed at eliminating barriers to trade that have no scientific justification in the agro-sanitary field, by achieving the utmost transparency in standards and enabling products to enter without endangering the forestry, agriculture and livestock sanitary situation of the parties; thanks to these agreements it will be possible to have more timely and detailed knowledge of the sanitary situation in other countries and at the same time provide information on the sanitary situation in Chile.

MAIN PHYTOSANITARY AND ZOOSANITARY AGREEMENTS OF CHILEII. MULTILATERAL AGREEMENTS AND AGRICULTURAL SANITARY ORGANIZATIONS TO WHICH CHILE BELONGS

Title	Type of convention or agreement	Starting date	Member countries
WTO Agreement on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures (ex-GATT)	Plant and animal health	1995	WTO Members
(OIE) Office International des Epizooties)	Animal health	1924	OIE Members
International Plant Protection Convention (FAO)	Plant health	1952	FAO Convention Members
Codex Alimentarius	Food safety	1962	CODEX Members
IICA	Plant and animal health programmes	1980	
COSAVE	Plant health	1990	Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Paraguay and Uruguay
CORESA	Animal health	1991	Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Paraguay and Uruguay
Plant Health Agreement	Plant health	1991	Bolivia, Chile and Peru

III. BILATERAL AGREEMENTS

Country	Type of agreement	Starting date
Argentina	Chile-Argentina Joint Presidential Declaration, Economic Complementarity Agreement, with two Articles establishing that the signatory countries will sign plant health and animal health agreements.	1991
	Chile-Argentina Bi-national Agreement on the regulations for the transit of animals, poultry and animal products from and to third countries.	1992
Brazil	Phytosanitary and Zoosanitary Protocol	1995
Bolivia	Phytosanitary Agreement, part of the Economic Complementarity Agreement	1994
Colombia	Phytosanitary and Zoosanitary Agreement, part of the Economic Complementarity Agreement	1993
Peru	Phytosanitary and Zoosanitary Agreement	1995
Venezuela	Phytosanitary Memorandum	1991
Ecuador	Phytosanitary and Zoosanitary Agreement, part of the Economic Complementarity Agreement	1995
Cuba	Phytosanitary	1993
Mexico	Phytosanitary Protocol	1991
Canada	Phytosanitary Agreement	1991
United States	Phytosanitary, Cooperation Agreement between USDA-SAG-ASOEXPORT	1979
New Zealand	Phytosanitary Agreement	1990
Australia	Phytosanitary Memorandum	1993
Philippines	Phytosanitary Memorandum	1989
China	Phytosanitary Memorandum	1990
	Supplementary Phytosanitary Memorandum	1994