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**Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures**

**SUMMARY OF THE MEETING HELD ON 29 AND 30 JUNE 2005**

Note by the Secretariat<sup>3</sup>

Corrigendum

The following corrections are made to the summary report of the 33rd regular meeting of the Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures held on 29 and 30 June 2005.

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**The text of paragraph 28 should read as follows:**

28. The representative of Mexico explained that since low pathogenicity avian influenza (LPAI) had been detected in his country in May 1994, Mexico had been applying health measures to prevent exotic subtypes and control and eradicate the only subtype identified, H5N2. Mexican Official Standard NOM-044-ZOO-1995, which covered any subtype of avian influenza (AI), both low and high pathogenic strains, was published in 1995. In the United States, various subtypes of low and high pathogenic AI had been officially identified, in particular H5N2, and H7N2, H6N2, H7N3, H5N3 and H3N2, none of which – with the exception of the first one, and in its low pathogenic form – existed in the Mexican poultry sector. The sanitary requirements established by Mexican legislation in the domestic poultry sector were equivalent to those applied for the export of poultry and poultry products originating in the states affected by AI in the United States. However, the sanitary measures aimed at ensuring epidemiological surveillance and monitoring of the transport of poultry and poultry products applied in the affected states of the United States were not equivalent to those implemented in the Mexican poultry sector. Live poultry presented the highest risk of transmission of AI, while the risk was lower in fresh poultry products and by-products such as poultry meat and eggs. Nevertheless, importation of certain products from the quarantined states in the United States was allowed. Mexico was continuing to analyse the technical information provided by the United States with a view to the opening up of exports of poultry and poultry products. This additional information had been provided by the USDA during the first quarter of 2005.

**The text of paragraph 29 should read as follows:**

29. The representative of Mexico recalled that the OIE, at its General Session of 2005, had agreed to establish new regulations with respect to AI in both its high and low pathogenic forms. These new regulations (Chapter 2.17.12: Avian Influenza, Terrestrial Animal Health Code) stipulated that all AI viruses of the H5 and H7 subtypes were notifiable, as well as any AI virus with an intravenous pathogenicity index (IVPI) greater than 1.2. It also stipulated that a country, zone or compartment

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<sup>1</sup> In Spanish and French only.

<sup>2</sup> In English only.

<sup>3</sup> This document has been prepared under the Secretariat's own responsibility and is without prejudice to the positions of Members or to their rights or obligations under the WTO.

could be recognized as free from notifiable avian influenza viruses, and others as free from highly pathogenic notifiable influenza viruses. Accordingly, the health requirements for exporting poultry and poultry products from and originating in countries, zones and compartments free of notifiable AI viruses, or free only of highly pathogenic notifiable AI viruses, were established jointly in accordance with Articles 2.1, 2.2 and 2.3 of the SPS Agreement. Mexico currently allowed imports of poultry, and poultry products and by-products from the United States except for birds and some products from the states that had been affected by a subtype of AI. Regarding Canada, the representative of Mexico explained that in March 2004, there had been an outbreak of highly pathogenic avian influenza of the H7N3 subtype in British Columbia; that the province had therefore been quarantined, and technical information had been requested concerning the outbreak. That same month, Mexico had received information identifying the AI virus in ducks as subtype H11N9, and in geese as H6. In June 2005, it had received information identifying the low pathogenicity virus of the subtype H3, also in British Columbia, and would carry out an assessment of the health situation in respect of AI in British Columbia.

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