



**CHINA'S ADMINISTRATIVE MEASURES FOR REGISTRATION OF OVERSEAS
MANUFACTURERS OF IMPORTED FOOD (26 NOVEMBER 2019)
– [SPECIFIC TRADE CONCERN 485](#)**

SUBMISSION BY THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

The following submission, received on 28 March 2022, is the statement made by the United States of America at the 23-25 March 2022 WTO SPS Committee, and is being circulated at the request of the Delegation of the [United States of America](#).

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1. The United States notes that China's Decrees 248 and 249 came into effect on 1 January 2022. The United States is concerned with China's lack of response to requests for scientific justification for these measures and explanation of how these measures will address food safety and public health concerns. The United States again requests China to provide any risk assessments that informed the development of these decrees. The United States is particularly interested in assessments that justify the identification of high-risk products and the application of these measures to low-risk products.
 2. The lack of guidance provided by China is causing considerable confusion for exporters and competent authorities. This confusion is leading to inconsistencies in China's implementation and enforcement of the measures and causing negative trade impacts. While China has provided some clarification, much more is needed.
 3. In addition, US agencies have been working to resolve issues with shipments frequently being held up at ports in China due to the repeated broadening of the scope of harmonized tariff codes subject to the measures. Meanwhile, companies accumulate demurrage and other port fees while they await resolution, and Chinese consumers face higher prices for safe food.
 4. As we have raised in interventions at every meeting of this Committee since June 2020, any measure of this magnitude requires far more time for producers, exporters, and competent authorities to implement. Therefore, we ask that China take the following steps to facilitate trade:
 - First, allow entry of all products from registered facilities until 1 July 2023. This additional time will allow facilities to accurately enter or update product information in their online registration;
 - Second, provide a point of contact at the General Administration of Customs of China (GACC) for facilities to contact directly with concerns about the online registration system;
 - Third, hold an informational session in Geneva for trading partners to learn more about GACC's implementation of the Decrees.
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