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**Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures**

Original: English

**EUROPEAN UNION REVIEW OF LEGISLATION ON VETERINARY MEDICINAL PRODUCTS  
– [SPECIFIC TRADE CONCERN 446](#)**

**SUBMISSION BY THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA**

The following submission, received on 11 November 2022, is the statement made by the United States of America at the 9-11 November 2022 WTO SPS Committee, and is being circulated at the request of the Delegation of the United States of America.

1. The United States again must raise our concerns with the European Union regarding the implementation of Article 118 of EU regulation 2019/6. We draw the Committee's attention to our intervention from the June 2022 SPS Committee meeting, which can be found in [G/SPS/GEN/2046](#).
2. We would like to emphasize again that animal species, specific pathogen-causing diseases, health management practices, antimicrobial access, availability of alternative treatments, and antimicrobial susceptibility profiles vary by region, country, and even regions within particular countries. The European Union should allow flexibility to trading partners to use least restrictive tools and techniques to meet the EU level of protection, in a manner that is appropriate for farmers and producers within the exporting countries' own domestic context.
3. Further, the United States again requests clarification on the process for amending and updating the list of antimicrobials reserved for human use and the scientific justification for the EU restrictions on the use of antimicrobial drugs that are not medically important for humans, including those used for growth promotion in animals.
4. As we have previously noted, such provisions may negatively impact livelihoods of livestock producers in the European Union and beyond, and ultimately prevent countries from achieving food security and sustainable development goals.
5. We would like to again remind the Commission that in July 2021, DG SANTE offered to meet with and provide updates to third countries. Such a meeting would be an opportunity for the European Union to share the outstanding details of the legislation, including its scientific justification, the intrinsic relationship between the proposed measures and their risk assessments, and how the proposed measures will consider the relationship between antimicrobial resistance and consumption of animal products, as well as the competence of third country regulatory systems. However, no such meeting has taken place. We await further information on when a meeting could be scheduled.
6. Finally, the United States reiterates its request that the Commission provide a new timeline for the pragmatic implementation of these measures in order to properly consider the lifespan of different animal species and the shelf and storage life of products already in the supply chain. As the implementing acts for these measures are developed, we would also request that the European Union be mindful of our recent experience renegotiating certificates for animals and animal products to ensure that our hard work in this area was not done in vain, and we would request that entry requirements are limited to what is reasonable and necessary to achieve the appropriate level of protection.
7. Instead of taking unilateral actions to address global challenges like antimicrobial resistance, we request the European Union to work with its trading partners to develop measures that are

science-based and consistent with relevant international standards, and to be mindful of the impacts of its SPS measures on global animal health, food security, international trade, and agricultural sustainability.

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