WORLD TRADE

ORGANIZATION

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Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures

DECISION TO EXTEND THE PROCEDURE TO ENHANCE TRANSPARENCY OF SPECIAL AND DIFFERENTIAL TREATMENT IN FAVOUR OF DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

Decision by the Committee of 1 February 2006

Addendum

- 1. At its meeting of 27-28 October 2004, the Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures ("the Committee") adopted a procedure to enhance transparency of special and differential treatment in favour of developing country Members (G/SPS/33).
- 2. Paragraph 4 of the procedure indicates that "Following one year of the adoption of this procedure, the Committee shall review the proposed notification process to evaluate its implementation, and determine whether changes are required and/or its continuance is warranted.".
- 3. In reviewing the operation of the procedure, the Committee noted that the procedure had only been used in a few instances and that more time was required for Members to gain experience with the procedure before it could be appropriately assessed.
- 4. In light of this, the Committee <u>decides</u> to extend the procedure as adopted in October 2004 and to review its implementation no later than at its first regular meeting in 2008, with a view to deciding then whether to continue with the same procedure or introduce modifications.
- 5. The Committee recalls that the Committee's regular agenda items on the "Implementation of Special and Differential Treatment" and on the "Operation of Transparency Provisions" provide opportunities, on an on-going basis, for raising concerns or assessing progress with respect to the implementation of this procedure.
- 6. The Committee encourages Members to make full use of this procedure and thereby to also contribute to enhanced transparency with respect to special and differential treatment and/or technical assistance being offered or provided upon request.