WORLD TRADE

ORGANIZATION

G/SPS/GEN/1142 16 March 2012

(12-1460)

Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures

Original: English

CHANGE OF NAME FOR THE NEW ZEALAND MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FORESTRY

Communication from New Zealand

- 1. The New Zealand Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry (MAF) is changing its name to reflect the new functions of the organization following its merger with the New Zealand Food Safety Authority and the Ministry of Fisheries last year.
- 2. The new ministry will be called the Ministry for Primary Industries. Its areas of responsibility will encompass all government work across the agricultural, horticultural, fisheries and aquaculture, forestry and food sectors, including imports and exports. The new ministry will continue to have primary responsibility for food safety and biosecurity.
- 3. The new name will come into effect on 30 April 2012. The new logo of the Ministry for Primary Industries will simply be the New Zealand Government Coat of Arms. This will be phased in over time. Brands, official seals and logos, etc. used on official certificates will be updated at a later stage with notification, through New Zealand's overseas Posts, to counterpart authorities well in advance. (The name of the competent authority will also change to the Ministry for Primary Industries.) The change process is expected to run through to mid-2013.
- 4. Overseas authorities will continue to deal with the same (MAF) staff in the new ministry (MPI) that they are currently dealing with now. Likewise the legislation currently administered by MAF will continue in the new ministry (MPI).