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Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures

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**DECLARATION OF THAILAND AS AN AREA FREE FROM
PANTOEA STEWARTII SUBSP. *STEWARTII***

COMMUNICATION FROM THAILAND

The following communication, received on 4 August 2014, is being circulated at the request of the Delegation of Thailand.

1. Pursuant to Article 7 of the Agreement on the Application of Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures and paragraph 3(b) of Annex B thereto, Thailand hereby advises WTO Members that during 2007-2010, the Department of Agriculture of Thailand conducted surveillances to determine the establishment of the bacterial disease Stewart's wilt (*Pantoea stewartii* subsp. *stewartii*), causal organism of Stewart's bacterial wilt and leaf blight of corn. The analysis was in accordance with Thailand Agricultural Standard (TAS 9031-2008), titled "Diagnostic Protocols for *Pantoea stewartii* subsp. *stewartii* Bacterial Wilt of Maize".

2. The information has been validated and confirmed that *Pantoea stewartii* is absent in Thailand. Thailand reported the absence of *Pantoea stewartii* under the International Plant Protection Convention ("IPPC") on 3 September 2013, which can be found at <https://www.ippc.int/countries/thailand/pest-reports/absence-pantoea-stewartii-subsp-stewartii-thailand>. More information can also be found in the following publications:

- The report titled "Surveillance and Dissemination of *Pantoea stewartii*", published in the 2010 Annual Report of the Department of Agriculture (available in Thai language); and
- Poster presentation at the International Conference on Tropical and Sub-Tropical Plant Disease 2012, in Chiangmai, Thailand, during 7-10 February 2012.

3. Thailand wishes to state that this communication is being made for the purposes of transparency, without prejudice to the country's rights and obligations under the SPS Agreement.
