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Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures

DECLARATION OF THE TERRITORY OF THE UNITED MEXICAN STATES AS AN AREA FREE FROM AFRICAN SWINE FEVER

COMMUNICATION FROM MEXICO

The following communication, received on 8 January 2019, is being circulated at the request of the delegation of <u>Mexico</u>.

- 1. Pursuant to Article 6 of the Agreement on the Application of Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures on the subject of regional conditions, including pest- or disease-free areas or areas of low pest or disease prevalence, and in keeping with the principle of transparency, we hereby notify the publication of "Decision declaring the territory of the United Mexican States to be free from African swine fever".
- 2. The Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (SADER), acting through the National Agriculture and Food Health, Safety and Quality Service (SENASICA) in coordination with the state governments and the pig farmers, developed and implemented epidemiological surveillance measures in accordance with existing programmes for the production units and did not detect the presence of the African swine fever agent within the national territory.
- 3. On 19 July 2018 Mexico, as an active member of the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE), issued a self-declaration as a country historically free from African swine fever.
- 4. The declaration of the United Mexican States as a country free from African swine fever will help to facilitate trade in pigs.
- 5. This Decision will enter into force on the day after its publication in the Official Journal.
- 6. WTO Members are asked to use this Decision as a reference in their commercial dealings with respect to livestock products from Mexico.
- 7. This communication is being submitted for purposes of transparency and in order to provide Members with further information on the current regulatory process in Mexico.
- 8. The document is available at: http://www.dof.gob.mx/nota detalle.php?codigo=5546959&fecha=20/12/2018.