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## **Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures**

## INDIA'S REQUIREMENT FOR CERTIFICATE FOR NON-GM ORIGIN AND GM-FREE STATUS - SPECIFIC TRADE CONCERN 501

## SUBMISSION BY THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

The following submission, received on 8 November 2021, is the statement made by the United States of America at the 3-5 November 2021 WTO SPS Committee, and is being circulated at the request of the Delegation of the <u>United States of America</u>.

- 1. The United States once again reiterates its concerns with India's measure mandating "non-GM (genetically modified) origin and GM free certificates" for certain agricultural imports into India, notified on 2 September 2020, as <a href="https://gww.gc.ncb/genetically-modified">G/TBT/N/IND/168</a>.
- 2. The United States has previously raised this issue at the November 2020, March 2021, and July 2021 SPS Committee meetings as documented in  $\underline{\text{G/SPS/GEN/1865}}$ ,  $\underline{\text{G/SPS/GEN/1901}}$ , and  $\underline{\text{G/SPS/GEN/1940}}$ .
- 3. Also, since January 2021, the United States has sought technical cooperation with the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) and to date has not received a response.
- 4. We once again ask that India consider withdrawing this measure or develop alternative approaches that are less trade restrictive. India has not provided scientific justification nor a risk assessment supporting this measure despite numerous requests from multiple trading partners.