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Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures

CHINESE TAIPEI'S IMPORT RESTRICTIONS ON POULTRY AND BEEF - SPECIFIC TRADE CONCERN 521

SUBMISSION BY BRAZIL

The following document, received on 31 March 2023, is being circulated at the request of the Delegation of Brazil.

- 1. For the 6th consecutive time, Brazil would like to bring to the attention of the SPS Committee the restrictions it has been facing to export poultry and beef to Chinese Taipei. Brazil believes that Chinese Taipei's approach goes against Articles 5 and 8 of the SPS Agreement, as well as its Annex C.
- 2. This STC shows an example of issues that were largely debated on the Working Group on Approval Procedures: the lack of predictability on the length of approval procedures and the benefits of anticipating processing periods to trade partners.
- 3. Chinese Taipei authorities require questionnaires with answers about animal and public health as part of its risk analysis process. However, Chinese Taipei has raised questions already answered by Brazil, either concerning animal health (Newcastle disease) or food safety. We also have already explained that we intend to export thermoprocessed meat, so there would be no need to answer this kind of additional questionnaire.
- 4. In February 2022, after a series of documents that had already been sent to Chinese Taipei, Brazil answered a questionnaire about processed poultry. We hope that, with the latest discussions we had with Chinese Taipei, we can now be near the end of the initial phase of its approval procedures.
- 5. During the June 2022 SPS Committee meeting, Chinese Taipei indicated that it was not possible yet to provide a timeframe for answers, as the questionnaire had been provided four months earlier. Now, more than a year has passed since we sent the requested documents. As a result, Brazil would like to address three questions to Chinese Taipei: (1) What is the time estimate for the final analysis of the latest documents sent by Brazil? (2) What are the stages for approval procedures for thermoprocessed poultry and beef in Chinese Taipei? 3) When can Chinese Taipei set a date for an audit mission to Brazil to evaluate the Brazilian inspection and certification systems, as the last step to conclude the current approval procedure?