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Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures

CHINA'S DELAY IN APPROVING REQUESTS FOR NEW LISTING AND REINSTATEMENT OF EXPORT ESTABLISHMENTS - SPECIFIC TRADE CONCERN 516

SUBMISSION BY THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

The following submission, received on 20 November 2023, is the statement made by the United States of America at the 15-17 November 2023 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 is disappointed China has not published all requested new US seafood establishments and some existing dairy establishments in over a year, despite repeated US requests for these modifications.
- 2. We request that China publish immediately the list of dairy and seafood establishments provided by the US Food and Drug Administration (FDA), and we look forward to receiving confirmation of the prompt registration of eligible US dairy and seafood establishments.
- 3. Further, the United States remains disappointed that China has not relisted meat facilities that are awaiting action from China's General Administration of Customs, or GACC, before being able to resume shipments, nor has GACC outlined a process for relisting suspended facilities in general.
- 4. In addition, the United States is concerned that China is testing for animal diseases in products that are deemed "safe to trade" by the World Organisation for Animal Health, or WOAH, and pose no risk to human health and present no food safety concerns.
- 5. The United States is frustrated that China is suspending establishments on the basis of such animal diseases and other purported infractions after individual detections, particularly in cases where some common tests are known to result in false positives in vaccinated animals.
- 6. We request that China accept the provided corrective actions and preventive measures taken by all affected establishments and verified by FSIS, immediately relist the suspended establishments, and outline a process for relisting suspended facilities in the future.