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Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures

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**SELF-DECLARATION OF COUNTRY FREEDOM FROM INFECTION WITH  
HIGH PATHOGENICITY AVIAN INFLUENZA VIRUSES IN POULTRY BY CHILE**

COMMUNICATION FROM CHILE

The following communication, received on 12 March 2024, is being circulated at the request of the delegation of Chile.

1. Pursuant to Article 6 of the Agreement on the Application of Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures, which concerns regional conditions, including pest- or disease-free areas and areas of low pest or disease prevalence, and in order to comply with the principle of transparency, Chile hereby informs WTO Members of the following:

- a. The Agriculture and Livestock Service (SAG) is the health authority responsible for protecting animal health in Chile;
- b. On 22 August 2023, Chile issued a self-declaration of country-wide freedom from infection with high pathogenicity avian influenza (HPAI) viruses in poultry, having undertaken all of the surveillance measures provided for in the guidance of the World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH) and having fully complied with the time frame set by WOAH;
- c. Domestic legislation establishes the control measures that must be applied within an establishment in the event of an HPAI outbreak. The legislation applicable to the control of HPAI is stipulated in Decree with Force of Law No. RRA16 of 1963<sup>1</sup> establishing the animal health regulations and Organic Law No. 18.755 of 1989<sup>2</sup> on the Agriculture and Livestock Service;
- d. Chile has an HPAI contingency plan, a key technical document, that is triggered in the event of an HPAI outbreak in poultry or non-poultry birds. The plan sets out specific procedures to be followed to respond to the situation and contains clear guidance on how to mitigate the impact of the outbreak. In addition, Chile has a zoning protocol that defines specific areas and actions to contain and control the spread of the virus in different regions of the country. In this way, guarantees are provided with respect to product certification and compliance with export market requirements;
- e. The declaration of country freedom from infection with HPAI viruses in poultry and the timely information provided by Chile facilitate the trade of its poultry products and by-products;
- f. Chile emphasizes that zoning arrangements facilitate trade during an emergency.

2. This communication is submitted for purposes of transparency and to provide information to Members.

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.bcn.cl/leychile/navegar?idNorma=3954>.

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.bcn.cl/leychile/navegar?idNorma=30135>.