

**REVIEW OF CONCERNS RAISED BY MEMBERS
PENDING THEIR RESOLUTION**

Communication by Argentina

The following communication, received on 18 April 2006, is being circulated at the request of the delegation of Argentina.

1. As requested by the Secretariat at the meeting held in March 2006, Argentina has reviewed documents G/SPS/GEN/204/Rev.5 and G/SPS/GEN/204/Rev.5/Add.1.

2. As a result, we can provide the following report on a number of outstanding plant protection issues raised by Argentina:

- (a) ***No. 23, relating to the European Communities' citrus canker regulations.*** Bilateral discussions to assess a proposal tabled are under way between the MERCOSUR countries and the EC.
- (b) ***No. 59, relating to restrictions by the United States on exports of citrus fruit to the US.*** Meetings were held in December 2005 and February 2006 to conduct a further risk analysis to assess the proposal submitted by Argentina.
- (c) ***No. 62, relating to requirements imposed by Venezuela on potato and garlic exports from Argentina.*** A sustained bilateral process on this export issue is under way, and Argentina hopes that the visit to secure recognition so that potato exports can proceed will take place this year.
- (d) ***No. 94, regarding fruit-fly-related restrictions by China on imports of citrus and other fruits.*** The favourable outcome of the bilateral negotiations led to the first exports of citrus fruit in 2005. We are currently conducting bilateral negotiations with a view to trade in apples and pears.
- (e) ***No. 97, relating to restrictions by Cuba on exports of apples and pears.*** At the meeting in January 2006, the two parties agreed to resume talks and examine the possibility of reaching agreement.
- (f) ***No. 165, relating to notification G/SPS/N/USA/705 on implementation of ISPM 15.*** Argentina is in a position to effectively meet the requirements imposed by the United States and other countries.

3. We thank the Secretariat for these documents, which enable us to monitor countries' concerns regarding sanitary and phytosanitary regulations. We believe that this is a suitable approach for monitoring the implementation of international standards and the harmonization process.
