

CHINA'S TRANSITIONAL REVIEW MECHANISM

Addendum

Additional Questions to China from the United States in the context of the Transitional Review Mechanism under Paragraph 18 of the Protocol of Accession of the People's Republic of China

The following communication, dated 16 September 2004, has been received from the Delegation of the United States, with the request that it be circulated to Members, for the purposes of the Transitional Review to take place at the Committee's meeting on 23 September 2004.

AQSIQ Licensing for Inspection of Imports

On 30 August 2004, China issued a measure exempting certain animal and plant products from entry quarantine review and approval, effective 1 September 2004. The measure, General Administration of Quality Supervision, Inspection and Quarantine (AQSIQ) Announcement 111, appears to exempt certain animal and plant products from the requirement to obtain a quarantine import inspection permit in advance of entry and prior to signing an import contract. The United States welcomes China's modification of its quarantine permit policies in Announcement 111 to remove some products from the list of products requiring quarantine permits, as traders have expressed continued concern regarding the burdensome nature of the quarantine permit procedures.

- (a) Announcement 111 lists the generic names of certain products in the animal products and plant products categories that are exempted from the quarantine permit requirement, but does not provide sufficient detail for the trade or a description of these products based on Harmonized Schedule (HS) Number. Please provide a description of exempted products by HS Number.
 - (b) Announcement 111 indicates that China's decision to exempt certain products is based on risk assessments. Please provide those risk assessments, along with any other analysis or criteria used as a basis for the exemptions.
 - (c) Were risk assessments performed on other products, i.e. products that are still on the list of products requiring quarantine permits? If so, please provide those risk assessments, along with any other analysis or criteria used.
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