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NOTE FOR THE ATTENTION OF THE TRADE POLICY COMMITTEE

SUBJECT: Information note on sanitary and phytosanitary measures (SPS) - minutes of the second SPS Committee under CETA (25-27 February 2019, Brussels).

ORIGIN: Commission - DG SANTE and TRADE – Units D3

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OBJECTIVE: For information

REMARKS:

In accordance with the EU-Canada *Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA)*, the second Joint Management Committee (JMC) meeting under the Sanitary and phytosanitary measures (SPS) Chapter took place on 25-27 February 2019 in Brussels.

The meeting was constructive with both sides expressing their engagement to find solutions on market access issues which are pending for both sides. As an outcome of this meeting, several follow-up actions have been identified to ensure continuation of the work aiming at tangible results to solve outstanding issues. This includes EU's market access for several products of animal origin (such as red meat) and products of plant origin (such as tomatoes, grapevine plants). Cooperation on general SPS topics of mutual relevance and interest will be further deepened, such as on recognition of regionalisation (when disease/pest outbreaks occur) and on antimicrobial resistance.

It is evident that the EU-Canada CETA aims at further facilitating trade and does not lower the high level of EU's food safety, animal and plant health.

The minutes of this meeting, together with the identified follow-up actions for the issues discussed are in annex. These minutes and follow-up actions are also made public on the Commission website.

This note and its annexes are also made available at <http://madb.europa.eu/madb/indexMs.htm> in the restricted part of the Market Access Database (MADB). Officials of EU Member States interested in having access to the restricted part of the MADB should e-mail a request to TRADE-MARKET-ACCESS-DATABASE@ec.europa.eu.

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