
9. SANITARY AND PHYTOSANITARY MEASURES

Mexico's main objective

- Maintaining the country's right to establish optimal sanitary and phytosanitary protections while facilitating the access of Mexican agricultural products to the United States and Canada. This will be carried out through specific mechanisms of risk analysis, regionalization, equivalence, audits, import reviews and certifications.

Benefits for Mexico

- Enact appropriate sanitary and phytosanitary protections to combat pests and diseases from entering the country.
- Parties will be able to address concerns through a special Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures as well as through cooperation mechanisms, information exchange and working groups.
- The parties have agreed to utilize simplified procedures in accordance to regionalization and equivalence measures, as well as to work on specific plans and time frames on such matters.

Chapter's main provisions

- Provisions to strengthen the Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures **(Article 9.7)**.
- Health authorities will be able to use simplified procedures on regionalization and equivalence measures. Parties have committed to work in a timely manner to set specific plans on this realm **(Article 9.8)**.
- The special Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary will serve as a forum to address concerns arising from the application of phytosanitary measures, reinforcing cooperation and information exchange **(Article 9.17)**.