

## **U.S. Comments G/SPS/N/AUS/385**

### **“Proposal P1027 – Managing Low Level Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals without Maximum Residue Limits”**

#### **BEGIN U.S. COMMENTS:**

The United States appreciates the opportunity to comment on “Proposal P1027 - Managing Low Level Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals without Maximum Residue Limits,” notified to the World Trade Organization as G/SPS/N/AUS/385 on April 21, 2016. We offer the following comments for your consideration.

The United States commends Australia for the success of its highly participatory annual harmonization process under the Food Standards Australia New Zealand (FSANZ) in establishing maximum residue limits (MRLs) collaboratively with Australia’s trading partners. While P1027 specifies that the proposed low-level MRL setting process does not duplicate or replace the existing MRL harmonization process, the United States would like Australia’s confirmation that the implementation of this new policy will not adversely affect the annual MRL harmonization process.

In addition, the United States would like to inquire whether P1027 is related to New Zealand’s proposal for new work in the Codex Alimentarius Commission, titled, “Risk Management Approach to Address Detection in Food of Chemicals of Very Low Public Health Concern.”

Australia is an important market for U.S. industries. We appreciate your consideration of these comments and look forward to your response.

#### **END U.S. COMMENTS**

**June 20, 2016**