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ANNEX 4

ANNEX

to the

Proposal for a Council Decision

**on the conclusion of the Free Trade Agreement between the European Union and the
Republic of Singapore**

COMPETENT AUTHORITIES

ARTICLE 1

Competent Authorities of the Union

The competent authorities of the Union include Member States' administrations and the European Commission. In this respect, the following applies:

- (a) as regards exports to Singapore, the Member States' administrations are responsible for control of the production circumstances and requirements, including statutory inspections and issuing health (or animal welfare) certifications attesting to the agreed standards and requirements;
- (b) as regards imports from Singapore, the Member States' administrations are responsible for control of the compliance of the imports with the Union's import conditions;
- (c) the European Commission is responsible for overall coordination, inspection and audits of inspection systems and the necessary legislative action to ensure uniform application of standards and requirements within the Internal European Market.

ARTICLE 2

Competent Authorities of Singapore

The Agri-Food and Veterinary Authority (hereinafter referred to as “AVA”) is responsible for ensuring a resilient supply of safe and wholesome food, safeguarding the health of animals, fish and plants, and facilitating trade in food and agricultural products.

In this respect, the following applies:

- (a) AVA is the competent authority responsible for import and export inspection and quarantine;
- (b) AVA is the national authority responsible for food safety for both primary and processed food. AVA ensures the safety of all food from production to just before retail. AVA adopts a science-based risk analysis and management approach based on international standards to evaluate and ensure food safety;
- (c) AVA is the national authority responsible for animal and plant health. It administers a comprehensive programme to prevent the introduction of animal diseases of agricultural, economic and public health importance and also a comprehensive programme to control as well as prevent the incursion of diseases and pests of economic and plant health importance.

REQUIREMENTS AND PROVISIONS FOR APPROVAL OF ESTABLISHMENTS FOR
PRODUCTS OF ANIMAL ORIGIN

1. The competent authority of the importing Party shall draw up lists of approved establishments and shall make these lists publicly available.
2. The requirements and procedures for approval of establishments by the importing Party are:
 - (a) the animal product which the establishment intends to export to the importing Party shall have been authorised by the competent authority of the importing Party. This authorisation shall include the import and certification requirements;
 - (b) the competent authority of the exporting Party shall have approved the establishments intended to export the animal product concerned and provided the importing Party with the sanitary guarantees, required by the importing Party, that the establishments meet the relevant requirements of the importing Party;
 - (c) the competent authority of the exporting Party shall have the power to suspend or withdraw the export approval of an establishment in the event of non-compliance; and

- (d) the importing Party may carry out verifications in accordance with Article 5.8 (Verifications) as part of the approval procedure.

Verifications as part of the approval procedure shall concern the structure, organisation and powers of the competent authority responsible for the approval of the establishment and the sanitary guarantees regarding the compliance with the importing Party's requirements.

Verifications carried out may include on-the-spot inspections of a certain number of representative establishments appearing on the list or lists provided by the exporting Party.

Taking into account the specific structure and responsibilities within the Union, such verification in the Union may concern individual Member States.

- (e) The importing Party may carry out verifications in accordance with Article 5.8 (Verification) at any time. Based on the results of the verifications, the importing Party may amend the lists of approved establishments which the importing Party had drawn up as referred to under paragraph 1 of this Annex.

3. The provisions in paragraphs 1 and 2 shall initially be limited to the following categories of establishments:
- (a) all establishments for fresh meat of domestic species;
 - (b) all establishments for fresh meat of wild and farmed game;
 - (c) all establishments for poultry meat;
 - (d) all establishments for meat products of all species;
 - (e) all establishments for other products of animal origin for human consumption (e.g., casings, meat preparations, minced meat);
 - (f) all establishments for milk and milk products for human consumption; and
 - (g) processing establishments and factory/freezer vessels for fishery products for human consumption including bivalve molluscs and crustaceans.
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