WTO ANALYTICAL INDEX

Agreement on Agriculture – Article 6 (Practice)

| 1 ARTICLE 6 OF THE AGREEMENT ON AGRICULTURE1 |
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| 1.1 Text of Articles &t. of. A3. (T6.4.(tic.)62. (le)2.(.6), IJENC./Span. &MCID.9.BDC0.004.Tc.0004.Tw.8027.20 Td(|
| |
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| 1.4 Nairobi Ministerial Decision on Public Stockholding for Food Security Purposes |
| 1 ARTICLE 6 OF THE AGREEMENT ON AGRICULTURE |
| 1.1 Text of Article 6 |
| |

Article 6

Domestic Support Commitments

- 1. The domestic support reduction commitments of each Member contained in Part IV of its Schedule shall apply to all of its domestic support measures in favour of agricultural producers with the exception of domestic measures which are not subject to reduction in terms of the criteria set out in this Article and in Annex 2 to this Agreement. The commitments are expressed in terms of Total Aggregate Measurement of Support and "Annual and Final Bound Commitment Levels".
- 2. In accordance with the Mid-Term Review Agreement that government measures of assistance, whether direct or indirect, to encourage agricultural and rural development are an

- (ii) such payments are made on 85 percent or less of the base level of production; or
- (iii) livestock payments are made on a fixed number of head.
- (b) The exemption from the reduction commitment for direct payments meeting the above criteria shall be reflected by the exclusion of the value of those direct payments in a Member's calculation of its Current Total AMS.

1.2 Article 6.2

1. The "Mid-Term Review Agreement" referred to in Article 6.2 of the Agreement on Agriculture is the package of results adopted by the Uruguay Round Trade Negotiations Committee at its mid-term review held in Montreal on 5-9 December 1988 and in Geneva on 5-8 April 1989. The Mid-Term Review Agreement is also referenced in the second paragraph of the preamble to the Agreement on Agriculture.¹

1.3 Bali Ministerial Decisions on General Services and on Public Stockholding for Food Security Purposes

- 2. At the Ninth Ministerial Conference in Bali in December 2013, Ministers agreed on an agricultural package in which two Ministerial Decisions related to Domestic Support.
- 3. Members agreed not to challenge breaches of domestic support commitments by developing country Members resulting from their public stockholding programmes for food security purposes that existed at the time and involved food purchases at administered prices provided that certain conditions were met.² In November 2014, the General Council clarified that this protection against legal action under the Agreement on Agriculture would remain in force until a permanent solution were agreed upon.³
- 4. Ministers also agreed to expand the Green Box list of "general services" in Annex 2 of the Agreement on Agriculture to include spending related to land reform, water management, rural livelihood security and other purposes related to development and reducing poverty.⁴

1.4 Nairobi Ministerial Decision on Public Stockholding for Food Security Purposes

5. The outcome of the Tenth Ministerial Conference in Nairobi in December 2015 included a further Ministerial Decision on public stockholding for food security purposes. This Ministerial Decision encouraged Members to make all concerted efforts to agree on a permanent solution and to conti hp2.3 (ti2 (T)TJ0.004 Tc -0.009 4w [N)h3 (d)11 (n)-2 (cd11.4 (t)-3 ((s)gTJ0.006 Tc 0..006 Tw 0..3