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Committee on Import Licensing

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IMPORT LICENSING SYSTEM OF INDONESIA

QUESTIONS FROM THE UNITED STATES TO INDONESIA

The following communication, dated 5 May 2023, is being circulated at the request of the delegation of the United States.

In 2021, the Government of Indonesia began implementing a Commodity Balance policy as a new component of the process for managing import licence applications. In the April 2022 meeting of this Committee, the United States asked whether Indonesia intends to notify Presidential Regulation No. 32/2022 to the relevant bodies of the WTO. To date, the United States has not received a response to this question. Can Indonesia clarify whether it intends to notify this measure to the WTO?

The Commodity Balance policy appears to apply to applications for a range of commodities, including certain agricultural products. In recent years, some importers have reported experiencing significant delays in obtaining their import licenses for certain agricultural products, as well as reductions to the volumes received. Were these experiences related to the implementation of the Commodity Balance policy? Please explain how the Government of Indonesia is addressing these issues.

The Commodity Balance policy appears to be stipulated for certain commodities in different stages. For example, in 2021, the first stage stipulated that commodity balances would exist for rice, sugar, beef, salt, and fisheries. Please explain how the Government of Indonesia determines to which commodities the Commodity Balance policy will apply.

With respect to the commodities for which a commodity balance has not been stipulated, which process does the Government of Indonesia utilize to manage applications for import approvals?
