CODEX COMMITTEE ON FOOD IMPORT AND EXPORT INSPECTION AND CERTIFICATION SYSTEMS (Twenty-seventh Session) Cairns, Australia 16 – 20 September 2024

European Union Comments on

Agenda item 8:

Discussion paper on the standardization of sanitary requirements (CX/FH 24/27/8)

Mixed Competence European Union Vote

The European Union and its Member States (EUMS) support the continuity of the project.

A standard of this nature could help overcoming challenges associated with electronic certification, including non-unique requirements, repetitive information, and lack of consistency and transparency in communication. This could, in turn, improve food safety and simplifying and expediting clearance processes while maintaining the flexibility of countries to define specific requirements.

For clarity, the project document only addresses the development of a uniform codified way to present existing sanitary requirements in certificates. It does not focus on harmonisation of requirements itself, or the level of the terms agreed between importing and exporting countries.