

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT  
THE UNITED STATES TRADE REPRESENTATIVE  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20508

2012 - 0058

April 15, 2012

The Honorable Beatriz Londoño Soto  
Minister of Health and Social Protection

The Honorable Sergio Díaz-Granados Guida  
Minister of Trade, Industry and Tourism

Dear Ministers Londoño and Díaz-Granados:

I am pleased to acknowledge your letter of today's date, which reads as follows:

"I have the honor to confirm the following understanding reached between representatives of the Government of the United States of America (United States) and the Government of the Republic of Colombia (Colombia) during the course of discussions pertaining to the implementation of the United States-Colombia Trade Promotion Agreement:

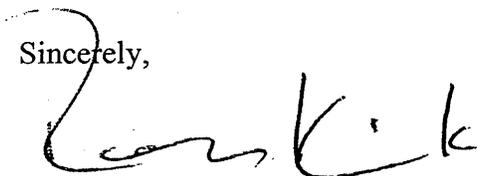
The Parties confirm that their respective authorities will cooperate on the development of Colombia's national policy pertaining to *Salmonella* bacteria, taking into account Colombia's existing formal recognition of the equivalency of the U.S. meat and poultry inspection system, including the monitoring, control, and reporting procedures for *Salmonella*.

Colombia agrees and confirms that based on Colombia's knowledge and understanding of U.S. measures with regard to the control of *Salmonella*, no U.S. raw poultry meat or poultry product of any form exported to Colombia will be rejected for *Salmonella-related* reasons, provided that the shipment is accompanied by a valid United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), Food Safety and Inspection Service Export Certificate of Wholesomeness which includes the following statement in it: "The poultry meat exported to Colombia was derived from federally certified slaughter and processing facilities operating under the permanent inspection of the Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS). The poultry meat was derived from slaughterhouses that adhere to the performance standards for *Salmonella* which have been verified by FSIS through monitoring of the pathogen reduction and HACCP programs, implemented in the slaughterhouses."

I have the honor to propose that this letter and your letter in reply confirming this understanding shall constitute an agreement between our two Governments, and enter into force on this day".

I have the honor to confirm that my Government shares this understanding and that your letter and this reply shall constitute an agreement between our two Governments to enter into force on this day.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ron Kirk". The signature is stylized with a large initial "R" and a distinct "K".

Ambassador Ron Kirk



Ministerio de Salud y Protección Social  
República de Colombia

Prosperidad  
para todos

Courtesy Translation

April 15, 2012

Ambassador Ron Kirk  
United States Trade Representative  
Washington, DC United States of America

Dear Ambassador Kirk:

I have the honor to confirm the following understanding reached between representatives of the Government of the Republic of Colombia (Colombia) and the Government of the United States of America (United States) during the course of discussions pertaining to the implementation of the United States-Colombia Trade Promotion Agreement:

The Parties confirm that their respective authorities will cooperate on the development of Colombia's national policy pertaining to *Salmonella* bacteria, taking into account Colombia's existing formal recognition of the equivalency of the U.S. meat and poultry inspection system, including the monitoring, control, and reporting procedures for *Salmonella*.

Colombia agrees and confirms that based on Colombia's knowledge and understanding of U.S. measures with regard to the control of *Salmonella*, no U.S. raw poultry meat or poultry product of any form exported to Colombia will be rejected for *Salmonella-related* reasons, provided that the shipment is accompanied by a valid United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), Food Safety and Inspection Service Export Certificate of Wholesomeness which includes the following statement in it: "The poultry meat exported to Colombia was derived from federally certified slaughter and processing facilities operating under the permanent inspection of the Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS). The poultry meat was derived from slaughterhouses that adhere to the performance standards for Salmonella which have been verified by FSIS through monitoring of the pathogen reduction and HACCP programs, implemented in the slaughterhouses".

I have the honor to propose that this letter and your letter in reply confirming this understanding shall constitute an agreement between our two Governments, and enter into force on this day.

Sincerely,

Beatriz Londoño Soto  
Minister of Health and Social Protection

Sergio Díaz-Granados Guida  
Minister of Trade, Industry and Tourism