



EMBASSY OF THE REPUBLIC OF MAURITIUS & PERMANENT MISSION TO THE UNITED  
NATIONS AND OTHER INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS

AMBASSADE DE LA REPUBLIQUE DE MAURICE ET MISSION PERMANENTE AUPRES DES NATIONS UNIES  
ET DES AUTRES ORGANISATIONS INTERNATIONALES

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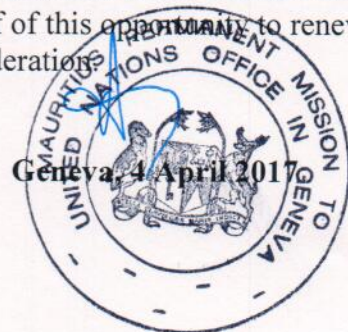
The Embassy and Permanent Mission of the Republic of Mauritius to the United Nations Office and other International Organisations in Geneva presents its compliments to the World Trade Organisation (WTO) and has the honour to inform of the urgent temporary restriction to be imposed by the Government of the Republic of Mauritius on the importation of cherry tomatoes from South Africa.

The Embassy and Permanent Mission has been advised by the competent authorities that the temporary restriction has been imposed due to the incursion of *Tuta absoluta* within the southern part of Africa, in particular countries like Kenya, Tanzania, Mozambique and South Africa.

*Tuta absoluta* is a very destructive pest and is not present in Mauritius. Importation of cherry tomatoes represents a pathway for the possible introduction of this very harmful pest that can cause damages of high economic significance to the local tomato production and a possible threat to the Mauritius biodiversity. Imports of cherry tomatoes from South Africa amounts to 3.5 tonnes on a monthly basis.

In accordance with the transparency provision of the WTO Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS) Agreement, the Embassy and Permanent Mission would appreciate if the WTO SPS Secretariat could kindly notify the competent South African authorities of the said temporary restriction. The attached draft SPS Notification has been prepared in the prescribed format.

The Embassy and Permanent Mission of the Republic of Mauritius to the United Nations Office and other International Organisations in Geneva avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the World Organisation (WTO) the assurances of its highest consideration.



World Trade Organisation  
(CRN Administrator)  
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