

**STATEMENT OF AUTHORITY
AND
CONFIDENTIALITY COMMITMENT FROM
THE VICE MINISTRY OF AQUACULTURE AND FISHERIES WITHIN THE
MINISTRY OF PRODUCTION, FOREIGN TRADE, INVESTMENTS AND
FISHERIES OF THE REPUBLIC OF ECUADOR
NOT TO PUBLICLY DISCLOSE NON-PUBLIC INFORMATION SHARED
BY
THE UNITED STATES FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION**

The United States Food and Drug Administration (FDA) is authorized under 21 C.F.R. § 20.89 to disclose non-public information to the Vice Ministry of Aquaculture and Fisheries (VAP) within the Ministry of Production, Foreign Trade, Investments and Fisheries of the Republic of Ecuador, regarding FDA-regulated products that originate from firms within the Republic of Ecuador as part of cooperative law enforcement or cooperative regulatory activities.

VAP understands that some of the information it receives from FDA may include non-public information exempt from public disclosure under the laws and regulations of the United States of America, which is confidential commercial information; trade secret information; personal privacy information; law enforcement information; designated national security information; or internal, pre-decisional information. VAP understands that this non-public information is shared in confidence and that FDA considers it critical that VAP maintain the confidentiality of the information. Public disclosure of this information by VAP could seriously jeopardize any further scientific and regulatory interactions between FDA and VAP. FDA will advise VAP of the non-public status of the information at the time that the information is shared.

Therefore, VAP certifies that it:

1. has the authority to protect from public disclosure such non-public information provided to VAP in confidence by FDA;
2. will not publicly disclose such FDA-provided non-public information without the written authorization of the owner of the information, the written authorization from the individual who is the subject of the personal privacy information, or a written statement from FDA that the information no longer has non-public status;
3. will inform FDA promptly of any effort made by judicial or legislative mandate to obtain FDA-provided non-public information from VAP. If such judicial or legislative mandate orders disclosure of FDA-provided non-public information, VAP will take all appropriate legal measures in an effort to ensure that the information will be disclosed in a manner that protects the information from public disclosure;

4. will promptly inform FDA of any changes to the Republic of Ecuador's laws, or to any relevant policies or procedures, that would affect VAP's authority to honor the commitments in this document;
5. has established and will maintain compliance with standards consistent with current United States federal government National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) Risk Management and Cybersecurity Frameworks¹ and/or International Organization for Standardization and International Electrotechnical Commission (ISO/IEC)² Information Technology security guidelines and standards that focus on protecting information systems and shared sensitive information;
6. will safeguard information systems that contain FDA-provided non-public information consistent with current NIST and/or ISO/IEC guidelines and standards to ensure confidentiality and integrity. Confidentiality means preventing unauthorized access to and disclosure of non-public information, and integrity means guarding against improper information modification or destruction. Integrity includes ensuring information non-repudiation and authenticity based on the security terms found in this Statement of Authority and Confidentiality Commitment, including means for protecting non-public information;
7. will destroy FDA-provided non-public information, whether in electronic form or hard copy form, once the information has been utilized and is no longer needed for official purposes;
8. will restrict access to FDA-provided non-public information to the employees, and officials of VAP who require access to such non-public information to perform their official duties in accordance with authorized uses of the non-public information unless otherwise authorized in writing by FDA. VAP will advise all such employees and officials (1) of the non-public nature of the information; and (2) the obligation to keep such information non-public; and

¹ The National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) Risk Management and Cybersecurity Frameworks provide a process that integrates security, privacy, and cyber supply chain risk management activities into the system development life cycle and provides guidance based on standards, guidelines, and practices for organizations to manage and reduce cybersecurity risk, respectively. These frameworks are primarily intended to manage and mitigate cybersecurity risk for critical infrastructure organizations based on standards, guidelines, and practices.

² The International Organization for Standardization and International Electrotechnical Commission (ISO/IEC) is an international standard that assists organizations in managing the security of their information assets. It provides a management framework for implementing an information security management system to ensure the confidentiality of all corporate data. Foreign counterparts are strongly encouraged to meet the ISO 27001 standard requirements, or the most recent standard, and to be certified by an accredited certification body.

9. will, in the event of a suspected or confirmed incident or breach³, including a cybersecurity⁴ incident, or any other type of breach, whether it is intentional or inadvertent:

- (a) protect all FDA-provided non-public information, including any non-public information created, stored, or transmitted to avoid a secondary information incident;
- (b) report all suspected and confirmed incidents or breaches involving FDA-provided non-public information in any medium or form, including paper, oral, or electronic, to FDA as soon as possible and without unreasonable delay, no later than one (1) day of discovery or detection; and
- (c) provide to FDA impact and severity assessments of incidents or breaches, upon occurrence, including a description of the actions taken, including preventative security measures employed to address and remediate the incident.

Signed on behalf of VAP:

_____/s/_____
Andres Arens
Vice Minister of Aquaculture and Fisheries
Vice Ministry of Aquaculture and Fisheries,
Ministry of Production, Foreign Trade, Investments, and Fisheries

8/18/22
Date

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³ An incident is defined as “an occurrence that (1) actually or imminently jeopardizes, without lawful authority, the confidentiality of information or an information system; or (2) constitutes a violation or imminent threat of violation of law, security policies, security procedures, or acceptable use policies.” Incidents can be events involving cybersecurity and privacy threats, such as viruses, malicious user activity, loss of confidentiality or integrity, unauthorized disclosure or destruction of information. For the purposes of this agreement, breach is defined as an actual compromise of security that results in the unauthorized disclosure of, loss, accidental or unlawful destruction, alteration, or access to protected data transmitted, stored, or otherwise processed. Breaches can be intentional or inadvertent.

⁴ Cybersecurity is the prevention of damage to, protection of, and restoration of computers, electronic communications systems, electronic communications services, wire communication, and electronic communication, including information contained therein, to ensure its availability, integrity, authentication, confidentiality, and nonrepudiation.