Uruguay - Exogenous water in wine

The United States and Chile, supported by Australia, South Africa and New Zealand, expressed concerns with Uruguay's prohibition of imports of wine containing exogenous water. They are also concerned that the new measure requires importers of wine to present a certificate that the wine does not contain exogenous water.

While members acknowledged that Uruguay's objective is the prevention of deceptive practices and consumer protection, they are concerned that the measure is more trade restrictive than necessary and not in line with international standards such as OIV. They further asked Uruguay to define the term exogenous water and the scope of the application of the measure.

Uruguay said that the scope of this regulation is limited to wine, and that Uruguay will continue consultations with other WTO members on this matter.