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Taiwan seeks WTO intervention citing China's opaque trade policies

14 December 2022 | News

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Taiwanâ??s agriculture council has raised the issue of Chinaâ??s lack of transparency in trading regulations at regular committee meetings at the World Trade Organisation (WTO) after China imposed a ban on fish products from Taiwan. Â

China continues to ban the import of pineapples, custard apples, wax apples and citrus fruits from Taiwan. Some of the bans have lasted over a year.

According to the local media, Taiwan has asked China to provide reports for the ban according to international trade regulations but China did not reply officially. The council mentioned, it has already improved fruit packaging-related processes that China cites as their reason for the ban. The council has also made multiple attempts for further discussions with China but again no response from China.

The council stated that Taiwan has brought up specific trade concerns about China nine times so far. That's since the WTO Technical Barriers to Trade regular meeting in 2020. Taiwan, along with Canada, Australia, the United States, Japan, and the European Union have raised concerns about Chinaâ??s lack of transparency in trade regulations.

Taiwan, a WTO member, has the right to raise specific trade concerns at committee meetings and demand fair negotiations with China. The agriculture council emphasizes China should base their trade regulations on factual data instead of bias against Taiwan.