



**Written Comments of Consumers for World Trade
Submitted to the Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS)
U.S. Dept of Agriculture
June 28, 2005**

Subject: Docket No. 02-019P – the proposed rule to add Chile to the list of countries eligible to export meat and meat products to the United States.

Established in 1978, Consumers for World Trade (CWT) is a national, non-profit, non-partisan organization. We are the only U.S. public interest organization with the sole mission of speaking for the interest of consumers in international trade policy. Our goal is to create and maintain an open and equitable international trading system in which the interests of consumers are represented and heard and where consumers enjoy the widest selection of products at reasonable prices.

We welcome this opportunity to provide our views on the proposed rule to add Chile to the list of countries eligible to export meat and meat products to the United States. Given that FSIS has determined that the Chilean meat inspection system is equivalent to the U.S. system, and that sufficient controls are in place to ensure that meat and meat products processed in Chile will not pose a risk in the U.S., we strongly support the proposed rule. The elimination of regulatory barriers to trade in meat and other products benefits American consumers by providing greater choice in the marketplace and stimulating greater competition among suppliers.

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With almost 300 million consumers in the United States, U.S. government officials should keep in mind the ultimate cost of trade barriers is borne on consumers and that we gain much through successful market liberalization. FSIS's proposed rule permitting imports of Chilean meat provides an opportunity for the U.S. to achieve a more open and competitive U.S. market for U.S. consumers.

Thank you for the opportunity to present these comments.

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