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The Embassy of Armenia 2225 R Street, NW Washington, DC 20008

Re: U.S. FDA Cancels 33% of Food Facility Registrations in Armenia

Good Day,

Registrar Coro assists companies worldwide with U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) compliance. As exporters from Armenia often come to you for guidance on FDA requirements, we are writing to notify you of some important FDA news.

There was a 20% decrease in the total number of food facilities registered with FDA between December 2018 and February 2019. In Armenia specifically, the number of registered facilities went from 147 to 98. This drop is likely due to FDA removing food facility registrations that were not properly renewed by December 31, 2018 from its registration database.

Under the Food Safety Modernization Act (FSMA), food facilities must renew their FDA registration between October 1 and December 31 of each even numbered year. Non-U.S. facilities must designate a U.S. Agent for FDA communications as part of their renewal. FDA communicates through the U.S. Agent to schedule inspections and to alert facilities of other FDA matters. Registration renewal is not complete until the U.S. Agent accepts the designation via email.

Many facilities do not realize that FDA removed their registrations until compliance issues occur. FDA may hold food intended for import to the U.S. at the port of entry if the responsible facility's registration is expired. FDA may not allow the food to be delivered to the importer, owner, or consignee until the facility is re-registered.

To help avoid costly detentions or regulatory action, it's prudent for facilities to verify that their FDA registrations were properly renewed. Registrar Corp is offering to verify that facilities' registrations are valid for 2019 at no cost. Simply direct companies to: www.registrarcorp.com/verify

Registrar Corp is happy to answer any questions about FDA food facility registration, or U.S. Agent requirements.

Sincerely,

Coley Anderson

Director of Industry and Government Relations

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