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INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- **USDA Reporting on Vietnam's Revised Draft Food Safety Law**
- **Canada and Türkiye Launch Free Trade Agreement Negotiations**

GENERAL ISSUES OF INTEREST TO THE CCB:

USDA Reporting on Vietnam's Revised Draft Food Safety Law

- On August 6, the U.S. Department of Agriculture Foreign Agricultural Service (USDA FAS) published a [GAIN Report](#) covering Vietnam's recent revised [draft Law on Food Safety \(Amended\)](#) (unofficial English translation provided by Vietnam), which would replace the *Law on Food Safety No. 55/2010/QH12*. Vietnam's Food Administration, Ministry of Health notified the WTO ([SPS Notification](#), [TBT Notification](#)) on August 3, 2026 (*BCI Monitor* 8-4-26).
- As previously reported, the draft, consisting of 71 articles across eight chapters, serves as the framework law governing food production, import, export, advertising, labeling, testing, and traceability, and would be implemented through separate decrees. It revises the earlier draft Vietnam notified in July 2025, restructuring the text and shifting article numbering (*BCI Monitor* 8-12-25).
- Comments can be sent to the U.S. SPS Enquiry Point at us.spsenquiry@fas.usda.gov or the U.S. TBT Inquiry Point at usatbtep@nist.gov. The WTO comment deadline is August 17, 2026.

Canada and Türkiye Launch Free Trade Agreement Negotiations

- On July 7, Türkiye's Ministry of Trade [announced](#) (in Turkish) the formal launch of Free Trade Agreement (FTA) negotiations with Canada, following a meeting between President Recep Tayyip Erdoğan and Prime Minister Mark Carney on the margins of the NATO Summit in Ankara. Canada's Prime Minister's Office issued a [parallel joint statement](#).
- The launch follows a Joint Ministerial Statement on Economic Partnership issued by Trade Ministers Ömer Bolat and Maninder Sidhu in early June 2026, which opened exploratory discussions toward a comprehensive FTA.
- Technical teams from both countries are expected to define the scope of the agreement over the coming months in preparation for a first round of negotiations.
- Global Affairs Canada also [opened a public consultation](#) seeking stakeholder input on the proposed FTA, running from July 31 to September 14, 2026, to include tariff and non-tariff barriers, SPS measures, and market access priorities. Submissions can be emailed to TCE-consultations@international.gc.ca.

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