

Name: Alert ID: TMML2024037245601 Prosecutors in Brazil filed charges against Agriculture Minister Blairo Maggi on Wednesday, accusing him of orchestrating a bribery scheme in 2009 when he was governor of Mato Grosso state. Prosecutor General Raquel Dodge filed charges at the Supreme Court, according to a written statement from the federal prosecutor's office. Maggi denies any wrongdoing, the press office of the agriculture minister said in a written statement. Under Brazilian law, Maggi, as a government minister, can only face a trial if the Supreme Court approves it. There was no indication on Wednesday as to when the court would make a decision, Reuters reports. Dodge accused Maggi of participating in a scheme to pay a judge on the Mato Grosso state audit court US\$3.4 million in public funds to retire, so that Sergio Ricardo de Almeida, who was a Mato Grosso state lawmaker, could take the post, which he did. Almeida was removed from the court last year and faces a trial in a lower-level federal court in connection with the supposed scheme.