

Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures

**PROGRAMME FOR THE WORKSHOP ON SPS COORDINATION AT
NATIONAL AND REGIONAL LEVELS**

Monday, 17 October 2011 (Council Room)

- 09.00 – 09.15** **Opening Remarks - Mr Deny Kurnia, Chair of the SPS Committee**
- 09.15 – 09.30** **Session I: Introduction**
Speakers: Gretchen Stanton, Javier Ocampo, WTO Secretariat
- *The importance of coordination at the national and regional levels*
 - *Existing reference materials from the WTO and other Organizations (SPS IMS, Step-by-step Manual, Mentoring system, IICA handbooks)*
 - *Logistics of the break-out sessions*
 - *Three Sisters Standard-setting Procedures (background document)*
- 09.30 – 10.00** **Session II: Comparison of the Three Sisters' Standard-setting Procedures**
- Benefits and weaknesses of the procedures
 - Concerns raised regarding the procedures
 - Changes to the procedures under consideration
- Speakers: Codex, IPPC and OIE

NATIONAL COORDINATION

- 10.00 – 10.20** **Session III: STDF Scoping Study on National SPS Coordination Mechanisms in Africa**
Speaker: STDF Secretariat
- 10.20 – 11.20** **Session IV: Sharing of National Experiences with Coordination**
- 10.20 – 10.40 Increasing Awareness and Advocacy of the SPS Agreement
Speaker: Karen Kristine A. Roscom, Chief Science Research Specialist, Department of Agriculture, Philippines
- 10.40 – 11.00 The Path to Establish a National SPS Committee
Speaker: Delilah A. Cabb, Coordinator, SPS Enquiry Point, Belize Agricultural Health Authority

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11.00 – 11.20 Coordination between the SPS National Committee and the National Representatives to the Three Sisters

Speaker: Ruth Montes de Oca S., Director, Office of Agricultural Trade Agreements, Ministry of Agriculture, Dominican Republic

11.30 – 13.00 Session V: Breakout Sessions (four groups)

- English
- English
- French
- Spanish

Participants will discuss their own experiences with ensuring coordination at the national level, and propose recommendations for "best practices" in light of the topics covered in the morning. Facilitators will organize the discussions based on a list of questions that will be provided to each group. Rapporteurs will be appointed for each group.

Facilitators: WTO Secretariat

13.00 – 15.00 Lunch break

15.00 – 16.00 Presentation of recommendations from each group by the rapporteurs, followed by general discussion

REGIONAL COORDINATION

16.00 – 16.20 Session VI: Regional SPS Frameworks and Strategies in Africa

Speaker: Joao Magalhães, Consultant

16.20 – 16.30 Session VII: SPS and Regional Trade Agreements

Speaker: Hanna Vittikala, WTO Secretariat

16.30 – 17.45 Session VIII: Sharing of Regional Experiences in Coordination

16.30 – 16.50 MERCOSUR: Sanitary and Phytosanitary Harmonization

Speaker: Dr Roxana Blassetti, Director of Cooperation and Bilateral Negotiations, Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Fishery, Argentina

16.50 – 17.10 COMESA: The Role of the SPS Sub-Committee as a Policy Organ in determining Regional Investment Priorities

Speaker: Martha Byanyima, CAADP Regional Process Facilitator / SPS Expert, Zambia

17.10 – 17.45 Plenary discussion

17.45 – 18.00 Concluding Remarks

Speaker: WTO Secretariat

SUBJECT: FIFTY-SECOND REGULAR MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE ON SANITARY AND PHYTOSANITARY MEASURES: REMINDER OF RELEVANT DATES

1. THE FIFTY-SECOND REGULAR MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE ON SANITARY AND PHYTOSANITARY MEASURES WILL BE HELD ON 19-20 OCTOBER 2011, STARTING AT 10 A.M. ON WEDNESDAY, 19 OCTOBER 2011. THE REGULAR MEETING WILL BE PRECEDED BY A WORKSHOP ON 17 OCTOBER AND INFORMAL MEETINGS ON 18 OCTOBER 2011.
2. ACCORDING TO THE RULES OF PROCEDURE, A MEMBER WHICH DESIRES TO INCLUDE ANY ITEM ON THE PROPOSED AGENDA SHOULD MAKE ITS REQUEST, IN WRITING TO THE SECRETARIAT, NO LATER THAN ONE DAY PRIOR TO THE DAY ON WHICH THE NOTICE CONVENING THE MEETING IS TO BE ISSUED. THIS NOTICE WILL BE ISSUED ON FRIDAY, 7 OCTOBER 2011. MEMBERS PROVIDING INFORMATION REGARDING AREAS OF PEST- OR DISEASE-FREEDOM OR LOW PEST OR DISEASE PREVALENCE ARE ENCOURAGED TO DO SO UNDER AGENDA ITEM 7(A).
3. IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE AGREED PROCEDURES (G/SPS/11/REV.1), NEW PROPOSALS FOR CONSIDERATION IN THE CONTEXT OF MONITORING THE USE OF INTERNATIONAL STANDARDS SHOULD BE PROVIDED TO THE SECRETARIAT NO LATER THAN THURSDAY, 6 OCTOBER 2011.
4. MEMBERS PROPOSING TO RAISE OTHER MATTERS RELEVANT TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE AGREEMENT, INCLUDING ANY MATTER RELATING TO A PARTICULAR NOTIFICATION, ARE REQUESTED TO GIVE NOTICE TO THE OTHER MEMBER(S) CONCERNED AND TO THE SECRETARIAT, TOGETHER WITH AN OUTLINE OF THE MATTER TO BE RAISED, AS FAR AS POSSIBLE IN ADVANCE OF THE MEETING, AND IN ANY CASE NO LATER THAN NOON ON THURSDAY, 6 OCTOBER 2011.
5. IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE RULES OF PROCEDURE OF THE COMMITTEE, MEMBERS ARE INVITED TO SUBMIT ANY DOCUMENTATION FOR CONSIDERATION AT THE MEETING BY 7 OCTOBER 2011, AT THE LATEST.
6. MEMBERS ARE FURTHERMORE REMINDED THAT THE CHAIRPERSON IS AVAILABLE TO PROVIDE GOOD OFFICES, UPON REQUEST, TO ASSIST WITH THE RESOLUTION OF TRADE CONCERNS.

7. A WORKSHOP ON SPS COORDINATION AT THE NATIONAL AND REGIONAL LEVEL WILL BE HELD ON MONDAY, 17 OCTOBER. THE OBJECTIVE OF THE WORKSHOP IS TO CONSIDER CONSTRAINTS AND BEST PRACTICES TO ENSURE EFFECTIVE COORDINATION OF POLICIES AND ACTIVITIES IN THE AREAS OF FOOD SAFETY, ANIMAL HEALTH AND PLANT PROTECTION AT THE NATIONAL AND REGIONAL LEVELS. THE PROGRAMME FOR THE WORKSHOP WILL BE CIRCULATED SHORTLY.

8. INFORMAL MEETINGS ON (1) ISSUES ARISING FROM THE SECOND REVIEW OF THE OPERATION AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE SPS AGREEMENT, IN PARTICULAR ON THE ENHANCEMENT OF PROCEDURES FOR AD HOC CONSULTATIONS (ARTICLE 12.2), (2) ISSUES ARISING FROM THE THIRD REVIEW, AND (3) PRIVATE SPS-RELATED STANDARDS WILL BE HELD ON TUESDAY, 18 OCTOBER 2011, STARTING AT 10 A.M.

9. ALL DELEGATES TO THE SPS COMMITTEE, INCLUDING REPRESENTATIVES OF OBSERVER ORGANIZATIONS, ARE WELCOME TO PARTICIPATE IN THE WORKSHOP, THE INFORMAL AND REGULAR MEETINGS OF THE COMMITTEE. INTERPRETATION WILL BE PROVIDED FOR THE WORKSHOP, SPS COMMITTEE INFORMAL AND REGULAR MEETINGS.

10. THE PROPOSED AGENDA FOR THE REGULAR MEETING IS AS FOLLOWS:

1. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA
2. INFORMATION ON RELEVANT ACTIVITIES
 - (a) INFORMATION FROM MEMBERS
 - (b) INFORMATION FROM OBSERVER ORGANIZATIONS
3. SPECIFIC TRADE CONCERNS
 - (a) NEW ISSUES
 - (b) ISSUES PREVIOUSLY RAISED
 - (c) CONSIDERATION OF SPECIFIC NOTIFICATIONS RECEIVED
 - (d) INFORMATION ON RESOLUTION OF ISSUES
(G/SPS/GEN/204/REV.11)
4. OPERATION OF TRANSPARENCY PROVISIONS
5. IMPLEMENTATION OF SPECIAL AND DIFFERENTIAL TREATMENT
6. EQUIVALENCE - ARTICLE 4
 - (a) INFORMATION FROM MEMBERS ON THEIR EXPERIENCES
 - (b) INFORMATION FROM RELEVANT OBSERVER ORGANIZATIONS
7. PEST- AND DISEASE-FREE AREAS - ARTICLE 6
 - (a) INFORMATION FROM MEMBERS ON THEIR PEST OR DISEASE STATUS
 - (b) INFORMATION FROM MEMBERS ON THEIR EXPERIENCES IN RECOGNITION OF PEST- OR DISEASE-FREE AREAS
 - (c) INFORMATION FROM RELEVANT OBSERVER ORGANIZATIONS
8. TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AND COOPERATION
 - (a) INFORMATION FROM THE SECRETARIAT
 - (i) WTO SPS ACTIVITIES
 - (ii) STDF
 - (b) INFORMATION FROM MEMBERS

- (c) INFORMATION FROM OBSERVERS
- 9. REVIEW OF THE OPERATION AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE SPS AGREEMENT
 - (a) ISSUES ARISING FROM THE SECOND REVIEW
 - (i) USE OF AD HOC CONSULTATIONS - REPORT ON INFORMAL MEETING
 - (b) ISSUES ARISING FROM THE THIRD REVIEW
 - (i) REPORT ON WORKSHOP ON NATIONAL AND REGIONAL COORDINATION
 - (ii) REPORT ON INFORMAL MEETING
- 10. MONITORING OF THE USE OF INTERNATIONAL STANDARDS
 - (a) NEW ISSUES
 - (b) ISSUES PREVIOUSLY RAISED
- 11. CONCERNS WITH PRIVATE SPS-RELATED STANDARDS
 - (a) REPORT ON INFORMAL MEETING
- 12. TRANSITIONAL REVIEW UNDER PARAGRAPH 18 OF THE PROTOCOL OF ACCESSION OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA
- 13. OBSERVERS - REQUEST FOR OBSERVER STATUS
 - (a) AD HOC OBSERVERS
 - (b) NEW REQUESTS
 - (c) OUTSTANDING REQUESTS
- 14. CHAIRPERSON'S ANNUAL REPORT TO THE COUNCIL FOR TRADE IN GOODS
- 15. OTHER BUSINESS
- 16. DATE AND AGENDA OF NEXT MEETING

PASCAL LAMY

STDF WORKING GROUP
Friday, 21 October
WTO, Room E (to be confirmed)

Meeting will start at 09:00

- 1. Adoption of agenda¹**
- 2. Operation of the Facility**
 - (a) Staffing issues
 - (b) Financial situation
 - (c) Policy Committee (9 December 2011)
- 3. High quality tools and information resources (output 1)**
 - (a) Pilot testing work on the development and use of the MCDA methodology
 - (b) Seminar on international trade and invasive alien species (9 July 2012)
 - (c) Proposed regional event with AUC and RECs on role and function in SPS
 - (d) STDF studies / publications

COFFEE BREAK

- 4. Dissemination of experiences and good practices (output 2)**
 - (a) STDF website / development of STDF Virtual Library
 - (b) Preparation of STDF newsletter
 - (c) (Planned) training / information sessions organized by partners
 - (d) Reports to SPS Committee and Codex/OIE/IPPC meetings
 - (e) Presentation by the UK Natural Resources Institute (NRI) about its SPS work under the "Agrifood Standards" programme
 - (f) Presentation by the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) on its SPS-related projects and activities
 - (g) Presentation of other initiatives of partners, donors and observer organizations

WORKING LUNCH

- 5. SPS issues and priorities in other programmes (output 3)**
 - (a) Coordination with and contribution to related initiatives and programmes
 - (b) Discussion about the PAN-SPSO programme

¹ An annotated agenda will be provided approximately two weeks before the meeting.

6. Improved capacity of PPG beneficiaries (output 4)

- (a) Joint EIF/STDF training on project design and results-based management tools
- (b) Overview of implementation of on-going PPGs
- (c) Presentation of applications not accepted for consideration
 - (i) STDF/PPG/360 (Indonesia)
- (d) Discussion of PPG applications
 - (i) STDF/PPG/353 (St. Lucia)
 - (ii) STDF/PPG/359 (Pesticide Residue Data Generation in Africa)
 - (iii) STDF/PPG/365 (Belize)

COFFEE BREAK**7. Improved capacity of project beneficiaries (output 5)**

- (a) Evaluation of completed projects
- (b) Overview of implementation of on-going projects
- (c) Presentation of applications not accepted for consideration
 - (i) STDF/PG/362 (OIRSA - laboratories)
 - (ii) STDF/PG/363 (OIRSA - tomatoes)
 - (iii) STDF/PG/364 (ICCO)
- (d) Discussion of project applications
 - (i) STDF/PG/333 (Cameroon)
 - (ii) STDF/PG/335 (Uganda)
 - (iii) STDF/PG/337 (ASEAN - Pesticide Residue Data Generation in Asia)
 - (iv) STDF/PG/343 (Sri Lanka)
 - (v) STDF/PG/358 (OIRSA - veterinary legislation)

8. Decisions on financing and prioritization**9. Other business**

Meeting will end before 18:00

Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures

**THREE SISTERS STANDARD-SETTING PROCEDURES
BACKGROUND DOCUMENT**

Note by the Secretariat¹

INTRODUCTION

1. The SPS Agreement (Article 3) requires Members to apply national SPS measures that are based on relevant international standards, guidelines and recommendations unless a deviation from them can be justified in accordance with Article 3.3. This process is often called "harmonization". The WTO itself does not develop these standards. However, most of WTO Members participate in the development of these standards in other international bodies.

2. There are three specific international standard-setting bodies recognized under the Agreement (Article 3 and Annex A), often referred to as the "Three Sisters":

- for food safety, the Codex Alimentarius Commission;
- for animal health and zoonoses, the World Animal Health Organisation (OIE); and
- for plant health, the International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC).

Leading scientists in the field and governmental experts on health protection participate in the development of these standards, which are subject to international scrutiny and review.

3. Given the role of the standards developed by the Three Sisters in the implementation of Members' rights and obligations under the SPS Agreement, it is important that WTO Members coordinate at the national and regional level, and are able to represent their interests before these international bodies.

4. SPS measures implemented by WTO Members that conform to international standards are deemed to be consistent with the relevant provisions of the SPS Agreement and of GATT 1994 (Article 3.2).

5. At the WTO's 2009 workshop on the relationship between the SPS Committee and the Three Sisters, countries identified the effective communication and coordination of the different relevant ministries for trade, food safety, animal and plant health at the national and regional levels as one of their biggest challenges. Some WTO Members have suggested that the lack of communication within the relevant actors in the SPS area may be due to the assumption that the standard-setting procedures of the Three Sisters operate in the same way.

¹ This document has been prepared under the Secretariat's own responsibility and is without prejudice to the positions of Members or to their rights or obligations under the WTO.

6. This document first describes the procedures undertaken by each of the Three Sisters in the development of standards, guidelines and recommendations, as described in publicly available resources. A second section compares these procedures, highlighting the substantive differences.

I. CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION

Background

7. The 11th Session of the FAO Conference (1961) established the Codex Alimentarius Commission under Article VI of its constitution and adopted its statutes (revised in 1966 and 2006). The Conference also recommended setting up a Joint FAO/WHO Food Standards Programme with the Codex Alimentarius Commission as its Executive Organ. In May 1963, the 16th World Health Assembly approved the establishment of the Programme and adopted the statutes. The Commission held its first session in 1963 and adopted the Rules of Procedure, subsequently revised several times (latest revision in 2007).

8. The main purposes of the Joint FAO/WHO Food Standards programme are protecting the health of the consumers and ensuring fair trade practices in the food trade, and promoting coordination of all food standards work undertaken by international governmental and non-governmental organizations. Codex standards and related texts, such as guidelines or codes of practice, cover all aspects of food safety and food quality, nutrition and labelling, as well as inspection and certification issues and methods of analysis and sampling.

9. The Codex Alimentarius Commission presently has 185 members (184 member countries and one member organization (EU)). All member nations and associate members of FAO and WHO which are interested in international food standards can apply for membership in the Codex Alimentarius Commission. International governmental organizations may participate as observers and international non-governmental organizations can apply for observer status in accordance with the *Principles Concerning the Participation of International Non-Governmental Organizations in the Work of the Codex Alimentarius Commission*.

10. The Codex Alimentarius Commission previously met every one or two years until 2003 and since then has been meeting regularly once a year (end June/early July). Meetings alternate between Rome and Geneva.

11. The Executive Committee of the Codex Alimentarius Commission consists of the Chairperson and the Vice-chairpersons of the Codex Alimentarius Commission, the six regional coordinators and seven further members elected by the Codex Alimentarius Commission from the following geographic locations: Africa, Asia, Europe, Latin America and the Caribbean, Near East, North America, and South-West Pacific. The Executive Committee normally meets prior to each session of the Codex Alimentarius Commission.

Decision to initiate new work

12. When a Codex committee proposes to elaborate a standard or related text within its terms of reference, it should first consider the priorities established by the Codex Alimentarius Commission in the Strategic Plan, the relevant outcomes of the critical review conducted by the Executive Committee, and the prospect of completing the work within a reasonable period of time. It should also assess the proposal against the *Criteria for the Establishment of Work Priorities*.

13. If the proposal falls outside of the committee's terms of reference, the proposal should be referred to another committee or reported to the Codex Alimentarius Commission together with proposals for amendments to the committee's terms of reference. The Codex Alimentarius Commission may also decide to establish an Intergovernmental Task Force, which will proceed

according to the same procedures as Codex committees but will be established for a limited duration and with a limited mandate. Examples include the Task Force on Foods Derived from Biotechnology (four sessions in 2000-2003 and three sessions 2005-2008); and the Task Force on Antimicrobial Resistance (four sessions in 2007-2010).

14. Proposals generally come from a country or group of countries and are generally made at a Codex committee or a regional FAO/WHO coordinating committee. When proposals for new work or revision of standards are made for adjourned Committees (still existing but no longer active), the Codex Alimentarius Commission may decide to develop the standard by correspondence or reactivate an adjourned Committee if necessary.

15. The decision to undertake new work or to revise standards is taken by the Codex Alimentarius Commission, taking into account a critical review conducted by the Executive Committee.

16. Prior to approval for development, each proposal for new work or revision of a standard is accompanied by a project document, prepared by the Codex Committee or member proposing new work or revision of a standard, detailing:

- the purposes and the scope of the standard;
- its relevance and timeliness;
- the main aspects to be covered;
- an assessment against the criteria for the establishment of work priorities;
- relevance to the Codex strategic objectives;
- information on the relation between the proposal and other existing Codex documents;
- identification of any requirement for and availability of expert scientific advice;
- identification of any need for technical input to the standard from external bodies so that this can be planned for;
- the proposed time-line for completion of the new work, including the start date, the proposed date for adoption at Step 5, and the proposed date for adoption by the Codex Alimentarius Commission; the time frame for developing a standard should not normally exceed five years.

17. The Executive Committee will review the status of development of draft standards against this time-line in the framework of the critical review.

18. The decision to undertake new work or revision of individual maximum residue limits for pesticides or veterinary drugs, or the maintenance of the General Standard on Food Additives, the General Standard on Contaminants and Toxins in Food and Feed, the Food Categorisation System and the International Numbering System, shall follow the procedures established by the Committees concerned and endorsed by the Codex Alimentarius Commission.

Elaboration Procedure

19. The Uniform Procedure for the Elaboration of Codex Standards and Related Texts consists of eight steps, as shown below.

Step 1: the Codex Alimentarius Commission decides, taking into account the outcome of the critical review conducted by the Executive Committee, to elaborate a World-wide Codex Standard and also decides which subsidiary body or other body should undertake the work. A decision to elaborate a World-wide Codex Standard may also be taken by subsidiary bodies of the Codex Alimentarius Commission in accordance with the above mentioned outcome, subject

to subsequent approval by the Codex Alimentarius Commission at the earliest possible opportunity. In the case of Codex Regional Standards, the Codex Alimentarius Commission shall base its decision on the proposal of the majority of members belonging to a given region or group of countries submitted at a session of the Codex Alimentarius Commission.

Step 2: The Codex Secretariat arranges for the preparation of a proposed draft standard. In the case of maximum limits for residues (MRLs) of pesticides or veterinary drugs, the Codex Secretariat distributes the recommendations for maximum limits, when available from the Joint Meetings of the FAO Panel of Experts on Pesticide Residues in Food and the Environment and the WHO Core Assessment Group on Pesticide Residues (JMPR), or the Joint FAO/WHO Expert Committee on Food Additives (JECFA). Any other relevant information regarding risk assessment work conducted by FAO and WHO should also be made available. In the cases of milk and milk products or individual standards for cheeses, the Codex Secretariat distributes the recommendations of the International Dairy Federation (IDF).

Step 3: The proposed draft standard is sent to members of the Codex Alimentarius Commission and interested international organizations for comment on all aspects including possible implications of the proposed draft standard for their economic interests.

Step 4: The comments received are sent by the Codex Secretariat to the subsidiary body or other body concerned which has the power to consider such comments and to amend the proposed draft standard.

Step 5: The proposed draft standard is submitted through the Codex Secretariat to the Executive Committee for critical review and to the Codex Alimentarius Commission with a view to its adoption as a draft standard.² In taking any decision at this step, the Codex Alimentarius Commission will give due consideration to the outcome of the critical review and to any comments that may be submitted by any of its members regarding the implications which the proposed draft standard or any provisions thereof may have for their economic interests. In the case of Regional Standards, all members of the Codex Alimentarius Commission may present their comments, take part in the debate and propose amendments, but only the majority of the members of the region or group of countries concerned attending the session can decide to amend or adopt the draft. In taking any decisions at this step, the members of the region or group of countries concerned will give due consideration to any comments that may be submitted by any of the members of the Codex Alimentarius Commission regarding the implications which the proposed draft standard or any provisions thereof may have for their economic interests.

Step 6: The draft standard is sent by the Codex Secretariat to all members and interested international organizations for comment on all aspects, including possible implications of the draft standard for their economic interests.

Step 7: The comments received are sent by the Codex Secretariat to the subsidiary body or other body concerned, which has the power to consider such comments and amend the draft standard.

Step 8: The draft standard is submitted through the Codex Secretariat to the Executive Committee for critical review and to the Codex Alimentarius Commission, together with any

²Without prejudice to the outcome of the critical review conducted by the Executive Committee and/or any decision that may be taken by the Codex Alimentarius Commission at Step 5, the proposed draft standard may be sent by the Codex Secretariat for government comments prior to its consideration at Step 5, when, in the opinion of the subsidiary body or other body concerned, the time between the relevant session of the Codex Alimentarius Commission and the subsequent session of the subsidiary body or other body concerned requires such action in order to advance the work.

written proposals received from members and interested international organizations for amendments at Step 8, with a view to its adoption as a Codex standard. In taking any decision at this step, the Codex Alimentarius Commission will give due consideration to the outcome of the critical review and to any comments that may be submitted by any of its members regarding the implications which the draft standard or any provisions thereof may have for their economic interests. In the case of Regional standards, all members and interested international organizations may present their comments, take part in the debate and propose amendments but only the majority of members of the region or group of countries concerned attending the session can decide to amend and adopt the draft.

20. The Codex Alimentarius Commission may also approve the use of an *accelerated procedure* for the elaboration of these standards, using a five-step elaboration process, as summarised below.

Procedures for the Elaboration of Codex standards and related texts – Accelerated Procedure

Step 1 - The Codex Alimentarius Commission decides to elaborate a standard on the basis of a two-thirds majority of votes cast using the accelerated procedure and assigns the work to a committee.

Step 2 - The Codex Secretariat arranges preparation of a proposed draft standard.

Step 3 - The proposed draft standard is sent to governments and international organizations for comment. When standards are subject to the accelerated procedure, members of the Codex Alimentarius Commission and the interested international organizations are notified.

Step 4 - The Codex Secretariat forwards comments to the committee for consideration and amendments to the proposed draft standard.

Step 5 - The proposed draft standard subject to the accelerated elaboration procedures is sent to the Codex Alimentarius Commission, together with any written proposals from members and interested international organizations, for adoption as a Codex standard.

21. Procedures for voting are described in Rule VIII of the Rules of Procedures. Rule XII.2 specifies that “The Commission shall make every effort to reach agreement on the adoption or amendment of standards by consensus. Decisions to adopt or amend standards may be taken by voting only if such efforts to reach consensus have failed.”

22. Once the Codex standard has been adopted by the Codex Alimentarius Commission, it is then published and issued to all member States and Associate Members of FAO and/or WHO and to the international organizations concerned. These publications constitute the Codex Alimentarius.

II. WORLD ORGANISATION FOR ANIMAL HEALTH (OIE)

Background

23. The OIE is an inter-governmental organization that was created in 1924, initially in an effort to control animal diseases in Europe. The current mandate of the OIE is to improve animal health and welfare worldwide.

24. The OIE publishes two Codes (for terrestrial and aquatic animals) and two Manuals (Terrestrial and Aquatic) as the principle references for WTO Members. The Terrestrial and Aquatic Animal Health Codes provide measures to enhance the detection, prevention and control of diseases and to facilitate safe international trade in animals and their products.

25. The Manual of Diagnostic Tests and Vaccines for Terrestrial Animals and the Manual of Diagnostic Tests for Aquatic Animals provide a basis for standardization on veterinary laboratory-related matters.

26. The membership of OIE consists of 178 member countries. The OIE maintains permanent relations with 45 other international and regional organizations and has regional and sub-regional offices on every continent.

27. The OIE standard-setting procedures, with particular reference to the Codes, are outlined in a document on the OIE website ("http://www.oie.int/fileadmin/Home/eng/International_Standard_Setting/docs/pdf/A_OIE_procedures_stand_recom_2011.pdf")

Decision to initiate work

28. Requests for the development of a new chapter or the revision of an existing chapter of an OIE international standard may come from various sources, including OIE delegates, individual scientists, other international organizations, industry organizations and non-governmental organizations.

29. Recommendations on new standards and on significant revisions of existing standards are developed by small groups of independent experts (ad hoc Groups). These groups report directly to a Specialist Commission, or in some cases via an OIE Working Group, to a Specialist Commission. All draft texts are reviewed by the relevant Specialist Commission, then provided to OIE member countries for comment. All member comments are reviewed by the Specialist Commissions, which may deal with comments directly or may send them to the ad hoc Group and/or Working Group for consideration and advice, as appropriate. The reports of ad hoc Groups submitted to Specialist Commissions, as well as the Commission's review of member comments, are documented in the meeting report of the Specialist Commission, which is sent to member countries after each meeting and is also placed on the OIE website. In March of each year, with the report of meetings of the Specialist Commissions held in February, all texts proposed for adoption at the General Session are sent to member countries for consideration prior to presentation to the World Assembly in May for adoption. Twice per year, OIE member countries are given opportunities (normally 60 days) to submit comments in writing. Although there is no provision for written comments to be presented to the General Session, there is opportunity to make oral statements and to obtain clarification of texts before adoption.

Elaboration Procedure

30. The OIE Strategic Plan sets out the priorities, strategies and overall direction of the OIE's work programme, including for the setting of standards. It is developed under the direct supervision of the OIE Director-General (DG) in consultation with the OIE's governing Council and submitted by him to the World Assembly of Delegates for approval once every five years.

31. Regional Commissions provide important input to the strategic plan and the resolutions voted at OIE Global Conferences often identify a need for the OIE to develop standards relevant to matters of strategic importance.

32. When a decision is made to develop a new standard or to significantly revise an existing standard, the OIE DG decides how the work will be managed, with reference to the terms of reference of the four OIE Specialist Commissions:

- (i) The Terrestrial Animal Health Standards Commission is responsible for the Terrestrial Animal Health Code;

- (ii) The Aquatic Animal Health Standards Commission is responsible for the Aquatic Animal Health Code and the Aquatic Manual;
- (iii) The Scientific Commission for Animal Diseases is responsible for drafting scientific texts, many of which will eventually be included in the Terrestrial Animal Health Code and for the recognition of member countries' official disease status;
- (iv) The Biological Standards Commission is responsible for the Terrestrial Manual.

33. OIE ad hoc Groups normally comprise up to six scientists with internationally recognised expertise in a disease or topic. Their appointment to the Group is by decision of the OIE DG, taking into account the need for internationally recognised expertise and for geographic balance in the selection of experts. In many cases, experts are drawn from the OIE network of more than 260 Reference Laboratories and Collaborating Centres.

34. The OIE DG decides the terms of reference and membership of ad hoc Groups convened to prepare draft texts on specific topics. OIE member countries are informed of these matters at the annual General Session.

35. The OIE DG may request that a "supporting document" be drafted by an expert, usually an official from an OIE Reference Centre.³ Supporting documents contain the latest scientific information relevant to the topic. They are a valuable resource for use by ad hoc Groups and Working Groups in their work, as well as references for OIE member countries

36. The work programmes of the Specialist Commissions are established within the overall framework of the OIE Strategic Plan. Proposals received by these Commissions are evaluated in terms of:

- (i) the likely extent of members' support, as evidenced from comments relevant to the request and
- (ii) the availability of scientific information needed to develop a standard.

37. Member countries may comment on the Specialist Commissions' work programmes, published twice annually. The reports of the Terrestrial Animal Health Standards Commission and Aquatic Animal Health Standards Commissions, along with their work programmes, are adopted annually by the World Assembly.

38. The Specialist Commissions normally have six members, including at least one representative from each of the five OIE regions. Regional Commissions propose candidates and the World Assembly of Delegates elects the members of Specialist Commissions for a three year term.⁴ The Specialist Commissions meet twice each year where they examine submissions made by OIE member countries and submissions from other sources, and the reports of relevant Working Groups and ad hoc Groups. In the case of the Terrestrial Animal Health Standards Commission, it also considers submissions from the Scientific Commission on draft texts for possible inclusion in the Terrestrial Code. The Commissions determine how to incorporate scientific recommendations into the new or revised standard. While submissions from OIE member countries are of greatest importance, Commissions also consider scientific information from other sources, including OIE partner

³ The major source of OIE experts is the OIE-designated Reference Centres, comprising Reference Laboratories and Collaborating Centres, which number more than 260 institutes globally. Each OIE Reference Laboratory has an OIE-designated Expert whose competence on a specific pathogen/disease is recognised internationally. Collaborating Centres of the OIE offer experts in specific fields. The OIE also calls on institutes other than OIE Reference Centres as necessary.

⁴ The general functioning of Specialist Commissions is described in the OIE Basic Texts <http://www.oie.int/about-us/key-texts/basic-texts/specialist-commissions/>

organisations and both private sector and non-governmental organisations, in order to ensure that the proposed standards are based on comprehensive and up-to-date scientific information.

39. Each Specialist Commission compiles a meeting report that includes, as annexed documents, the reports of all Working Groups and ad hoc Groups considered by the Commission. The meeting report also explains how the various submissions were addressed. OIE member countries and others submitting comments are encouraged to provide a scientific rationale for their comments, to facilitate analysis by Specialist Commissions.

40. On a twice yearly basis, OIE member countries are invited to comment on the recommendations in the reports of Specialist Commissions. Organisations with which the OIE has formal agreements may also be invited to provide advice, depending on the relevant areas of expertise.

41. In reviewing draft new or revised standards in the Terrestrial and Aquatic Health Codes, Commissions consider the extent to which OIE member countries support the recommendations and the rationale provided, particularly in the case of criticisms of a draft text. If, after at least two rounds of comment, there is widespread support for the proposed new or revised standard, the OIE Specialist Commissions may decide to submit the chapter for adoption at the following OIE General Session. If, however, significant concern is expressed or if member country comments suggest a need for further technical work, a Commissions may re-examine the issue. If scientific or technical questions outside its expertise are raised, a Commission will normally ask the Working Group or the relevant ad hoc Group to re-examine the issues and provide advice to the Commission. Another round of consultation with OIE member countries will then be undertaken.

42. The OIE currently has three "permanent" Working Groups, which are responsible for the general management and oversight of the OIE work programme in three thematic areas:

- (i) The Animal Welfare Working Group - reports to the Terrestrial or Aquatic Animal Health Standards Commission, as relevant to the topic;
- (ii) The Animal Production Food Safety Working Group - reports to the Terrestrial or Aquatic Animal Health Standards Commission, as relevant to the topic;
- (iii) The Working Group on Wildlife – reports to the Scientific Commission for Animal Diseases.

43. The work programme of each Working Group is presented to the relevant Specialist Commission and, via the report of the Commissions, to the World Assembly for information and comment annually.

44. To assist in addressing new themes and significant developments, Working Groups may take responsibility for drafting discussion papers and strategy papers to establish key principles and directions for the OIE to follow in standard setting. In all cases, these papers, along with the recommendations of Specialist Commissions, are provided to OIE member countries for information and comment. Once endorsed, Working Group papers can provide a framework and guiding principles for OIE standard setting.

45. Members of Specialist Commissions may participate in Working Groups to facilitate communication between them and the relevant Commission; they may not chair Working Groups.

46. The members of Working Groups are nominated by the OIE DG and endorsed by the World Assembly of Delegates annually at the General Session. In addition to representation from the five OIE regions, relevant partners of the OIE may participate in Working Groups.

47. Participation in the process of development and adoption of OIE standards is coordinated through the permanent national delegate, who is, in most cases, the head of the national veterinary services. The OIE encourages national delegates to nominate, under their authority, focal points on seven topics (disease notification; animal welfare; animal production food safety; veterinary products; wildlife; aquatic animals; and communication) to help the delegate to meet his/her responsibilities, particularly in relation to standard setting. Experts, industry groups and organisations wishing to participate in the process of standards development may send submissions directly to the OIE but they are strongly encouraged to provide their input through a relevant national delegate. OIE delegates are informed of new or revised draft standards and are consulted at different steps of development, as mentioned above.

48. The normal cycle for the adoption of new texts in the Codes is two years, meaning that the development of a new text is the subject of consultation with OIE member countries on two to four occasions during that period. In the case of emergency situations warranting a more rapid procedure, standards may be developed within a shorter period. Less significant modifications to existing texts may also be undertaken in a one year period, if member countries agree to the proposed modifications.

49. OIE standards can only be adopted at the OIE General Session, the annual meeting of the World Assembly of Delegates, which is the OIE's highest authority. In nearly all cases, standards are adopted by consensus. If consensus cannot be reached, a two-thirds majority vote allows for the adoption of a standard.

III. INTERNATIONAL PLANT PROTECTION CONVENTION (IPPC)

Background

50. The IPPC is an international treaty ratified in 1952, first amended in 1979, and then again in 1997. The purpose of the Convention is to secure common and effective action to prevent the spread and introduction of pests of plants and plant products.⁵

51. The IPPC is governed by the Commission on Phytosanitary Measures (CPM). The CPM's mission is the cooperation between nations in protecting the world's cultivated and natural plant resources from the spread and introduction of pests of plants, while minimizing interference with the international movement of goods and people.

52. Membership of the CPM consists of all contracting parties to the IPPC; currently 177 signatories adhere to the Convention. Countries that wish to become contracting parties to the IPPC must deposit their instrument of adherence with the Director General of FAO.

53. The CPM is directed between sessions by the CPM Bureau, which provides advice and administration and makes decisions between annual CPM meetings. There are two subsidiary bodies to the CPM:

- the Standards Committee and
- the Subsidiary Body on Dispute Settlement.

54. The IPPC Secretariat is responsible for coordinating the IPPC work programme, which involves:

- developing International Standards for Phytosanitary Measures (standard setting)

⁵ Procedural Manual, International Plant Protection Convention, October 2010, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, Rome, 2010.

- providing information required by the IPPC, and facilitating information exchange between contracting parties (information exchange); and
- providing technical assistance - especially for capacity building - to facilitate the implementation of the IPPC (capacity development)

55. In the 1990s the IPPC began work on formulating International Standards for Phytosanitary Measures (ISPMs). In November 1993, the Conference of the FAO, at its 27th session, approved the first ISPM; from 1998 the Interim Commission on Phytosanitary Measures adopted the IPPC standards, and since 2006 they have been adopted by the CPM. Ever since, standards covering a wide range of topics have been adopted and others are in the draft or consultation phases of the standard-setting process. Existing standards are scheduled for periodic review and are then revised as necessary.

56. There are nine Regional Plant Protection Organizations (RPPOs) that have coordinating functions in their respective regions. One of their roles is to help achieve the objectives of the IPPC.

Decision to initiate work

57. The CPM prepares priority lists for the development of standards and prepares a strategic plan to make clear its strategic directions and goals. These activities are updated biennially and annually, respectively.

Elaboration procedure

58. Part 3 of the 2010 procedural manual of the IPPC contains the current standard setting process which was adopted as Annex 1 of the Rules of Procedure of the CPM in 2008.

59. The process for developing an ISPM comprises four stages:

- Stage 1: Developing the IPPC standard-setting work programme
- Stage 2: Drafting
- Stage 3: Member consultation
- Stage 4: Adoption and publication.

Stage 1: Developing the IPPC standard-setting work programme

Step 1: The IPPC Secretariat makes a call for topics every two years. Detailed proposals for new topics or for the revision of existing ISPMs are submitted to the IPPC Secretariat.

Step 2: The CPM adjusts and adopts the IPPC standard-setting work programme, taking into account the strategic priorities identified by the Strategic Planning and Technical Assistance working group (SPTA) and the revised work programme proposed by the Standards Committee (SC).

60. The SC was established by the CPM as its standard-setting body. The SC manages the standard-setting process and assists in the development of ISPMs which have been identified by the CPM as priority standards. The SC comprises of 25 members drawn from the seven FAO regions (Africa, Asia, Europe, Latin America & Caribbean, Near East, North America, and Southwest Pacific). Each region determines its own procedures to select nominees for the SC.

61. The SC selects from within its members a subgroup of seven experts, the SC Working Group of seven members (SC-7), to undertake detailed work on draft standards.

62. The SPTA is an informal working group that prepares specific activities for the CPM relating to planning and prioritization of the work programme, including technical assistance, information exchange, prioritizing topics for standards, funding issues, and decisions regarding liaison with other international and regional organizations. The SPTA meets during the first week of October each year at FAO headquarters in Rome, Italy.

Stage 2: Drafting

Step 3: Development of a specification

- For each topic or technical panel, the SC appoints a steward⁶, who, in collaboration with the IPPC Secretariat, drafts a specification, taking into account the proposal for the topic.
- The SC reviews the specification and, once approved for member consultation, it is then made available on the International Phytosanitary Portal (IPP) for a 60 day consultation period.
- Member countries and RPPOs are notified.
- The IPPC Secretariat compiles the comments, posts them on the IPP and submits them to the steward(s) and the SC for consideration.
- The specification is amended as necessary, finalized and approved by the SC and published on the IPP.

Step 4: An expert drafting group (expert working group or technical panel) drafts or revises the standard in accordance with the relevant specification.

- Regular process: The resulting draft standard is submitted to the SC. The SC or SC-7 reviews the draft at a meeting and decides whether to send it for member consultation, or to return it to the steward(s) or to an expert drafting group, or to put it on hold. In the case where only the SC-7 meets, comments from any SC members will also be taken into account.
- Special process: The resulting draft standard is submitted to the SC at any time by e-mail. The SC decides by e-mail whether to send it for member consultation, or to return it to the steward(s) or to an expert drafting group, or to place it on the SC agenda for a decision on how to proceed.

63. The technical panels were established to develop standards under special process. Five technical panels are currently established:

- Technical panel 1: Technical panel to develop diagnostic protocols for specific pests
- Technical panel 2: Technical panel on pest free areas and systems approaches for fruit flies
- Technical panel 3: Technical panel on phytosanitary treatments
- Technical panel 4: Technical panel on forest quarantine
- Technical panel 5: Technical panel on the glossary.

⁶ Stewards are senior plant health officers or scientists who are familiar with the standard setting process, they are drawn from the SC if possible or from the membership of the expert drafting group. The steward oversees the technical panel or assists with the development of standard throughout the entire standard setting process, providing a linkage between the expert drafting group and the SC.

64. Technical panel members work according to the specifications approved by the SC and the procedures included in the IPPC Procedural Manual.

65. The expert working groups are comprised of six to ten participants, representing a wide geographic area, including a member of the SC. The expert working group does not allow observers, but may invite representatives of industry or others to provide expertise, however they cannot participate as members.

66. The selection of experts for the working group is done by nomination: nominations are requested at the time of adoption of the work programme or specifications for standards are suggested at the Interim Commission, or later when the specifications are put on the IPP. Governments, National Plant Protection Organizations (NPPOs) or RPPOs nominate experts to the Standards Committee; the Standards Committee designates the members of the working group and submits a list to the Interim Commission Bureau and IPPC Secretariat for confirmation. Finally, the list of members of the expert working group, and representatives of industry or others, are added to the IPP.

Stage 3: Member consultation

Step 5: Member consultation

67. Following clearance by the SC, the IPPC Secretariat sends the draft standard for member consultation to contracting parties, NPPOs, RPPOs and relevant international organizations for consultation. The draft standard is also posted on the IPP. The length of the consultation period is 100 days. Comments are submitted through the IPPC contact point. Comments are by written submission to the IPPC Secretariat (preferably by electronic means, e.g. e-mail) following guidelines, using the template supplied by the IPPC Secretariat.

- Regular process: The IPPC Secretariat compiles the comments and submits them to the steward and the SC for consideration.
- Special process: The IPPC Secretariat compiles the comments and submits them to the technical panel and the SC for consideration (possibly by e-mail).

Step 6: Review of the draft ISPM prior to the CPM meeting

- Regular process: Considering the comments, the SC-7 and the SC revise the draft standard. The SC decides whether to forward the modified draft to the Commission for adoption, or to put it on hold, return it to the steward or to an expert drafting group, or submit it for another round of member consultation. A summary of major issues discussed is produced as part of the SC report and posted on the IPP.⁷
- Special process: If no one changes the draft text, the draft standard is submitted to the CPM for adoption. If the draft standard is changed as a result of comments, the draft is submitted to the SC. In consultation with the relevant technical panel, the SC examines the draft standard and, if appropriate, modifies it. The SC decides (possibly via e-mail) whether to forward the modified draft standard to the CPM for adoption, or some other action such as to put it on hold, return it to the steward or to a technical panel, or submit it for another round of member consultation.

Stage 4: Adoption and publication

⁷ The CPM-4 (2009) replaced the previous text of "A summary of major issues discussed and of SC reactions to substantive comments that were not incorporated into the standard is produced as part of the SC report and posted on the IPP", (CPM-4 (2009), Paragraph 126.6).

Step 7: Adoption

- Regular process: Following approval by the SC, the draft standard is included on the agenda of the CPM meeting for adoption. The IPPC Secretariat sends the draft standard for member consultation to contracting parties, NPPOs, RPPOs and relevant international organizations for consultation at least 14 days before the CPM meeting, following guidelines.
- Special process: The draft standard is included on the agenda of the CPM meeting for adoption. If no formal objection⁸ is received up to 14 days prior to the CPM meeting, the draft standard will be adopted without discussion. If a formal objection is received at least 14 days prior to the CPM meeting, the draft standard is returned to the SC. The SC decides, possibly via electronic means, how to proceed, including the possibility of submitting it to the CPM for adoption through the regular process. Formal objections should be posted on the IPP as soon as possible to ensure that contracting parties are aware of them before the CPM meeting.

68. The CPM meets on an annual basis (March/April) and formally adopts the ISPM according to Rule X.2 of the Rules of Procedure of the Commission. Rule X.2 states that where consensus is not reached on a proposal for the adoption of a standard which has been introduced before the CPM for the first time, the proposed standard shall be referred back to the appropriate body of the CPM, together with its comments thereon, for further consideration. If the standard is submitted for adoption the second time and no consensus is obtained, Rule VI of the CPM is applicable and a voting procedure is undertaken according to that rule. The media time for approval of a new standard in the IPPC framework is 3.5 years.

Step 8: The IPPC Secretariat publishes the ISPM, including posting it on the IPP.

69. Transparency is encouraged in the IPPC standard-setting procedure, for its improvement, a set of recommendations have been made by the ICPM:

- All country comments should be published on the IPP;
- The IPPC Secretariat should produce and make accessible a generic summary of SC reactions to classes of comments made during the country consultation;
- Members of the SC should report back to countries in their regions; and
- Guidelines for members of the SC to be developed should incorporate guidance on this reporting function of SC members.

70. Explanatory documents, manuals and similar documents on ISPMs are available on the IPP to help countries implement provisions of the IPPC and ISPMs:

- ISPM 5 - Glossary of phytosanitary terms;
- ISPM 17 - Pest reporting;
- ISPM 18 - Guidelines for the use of irradiation as a phytosanitary measure;
- ISPM 20 - Guidelines for a phytosanitary import regulatory system;
- ISPM 31 - Methodologies for sampling consignments; and

⁸ A formal objection should be a technically supported objection to the adoption of the draft standard in its current form, sent through the official IPPC contact point. The IPPC Secretariat would not make any judgement about the validity of the objection – an objection with some technical discussion of the issue would be accepted as a formal objection.

- IPPC's standard-setting procedures are flexible and periodically reviewed.

IV. COMPARISON OF THE THREE SISTERS STANDARD-SETTING PROCEDURES

71. The procedures implemented by the Three Sisters in the development of standards, guidelines and recommendations can be compared through consideration of five basic questions:

1. How does new work get on the agenda?
2. How are standards prepared?
3. What is the role of expert?
4. What opportunities do Members have to provide input to draft standards?
5. How is a standard adopted?

72. As is evident from the preceding sections, there are many similarities in the standard-setting procedures of Codex, IPPC and OIE. There are, however, a number of differences. The following side-by-side presentation of the processes of the Three Sisters, structured according to the above questions, facilitates the identification of similarities and differences.

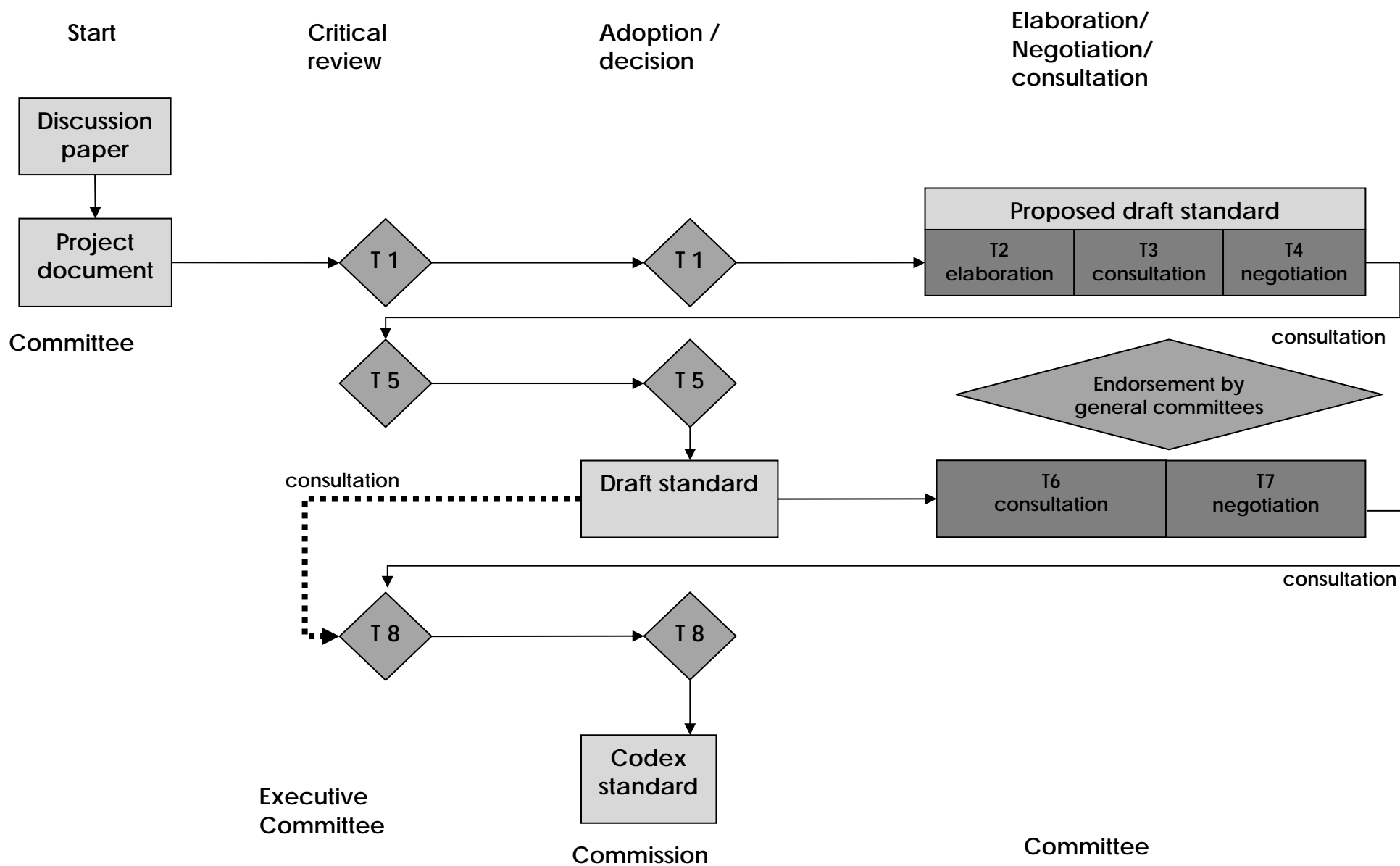
COMPARATIVE TABLE OF THE THREE SISTER'S STANDARD-SETTING PROCEDURES

SSP	Codex	OIE	IPPC
Getting new work on the agenda	<p>Codex member(s) or Codex Committees may propose new work to the relevant Codex Committee; when the relevant committee agrees, the proposal is forwarded to the Codex Executive Committee/ Codex Alimentarius Commission for approval. Each proposal for new work is accompanied by a project document, prepared by the Member or Committee.</p> <p>The decision to undertake new work (or to revise standards) is taken by the Codex Commission taking into account a critical review conducted by the Executive Committee.</p>	<p>Request for the development of a new chapter or the revision of an existing chapter of an OIE international standard may come from various sources, including OIE delegates, individual scientists and other international organizations, industry organizations and non-governmental organizations. Resolutions from OIE Global Conferences are an important input.</p> <p>The OIE Director-General, in consultation with the World Assembly, approves the new work, taking into account the overall direction of the Strategic Plan and the resources available to OIE headquarters.</p>	<p>The IPPC Secretariat calls for submissions for topics to be included in the standard-setting work programme. A call is made every two years and request submissions are sought from National Plant Protection Organizations (NPPOs), Regional Plant Protection Organizations (RPPOs), and the WTO-SPS Committee. The call is posted in the International Phytosanitary Portal. Other organizations, such as the Convention on Biological Diversity, and the Commission's technical panels can also respond to the call.</p> <p>The Phytosanitary Commission adjusts and adopts the IPPC standard-setting work programme, taking into account the strategic priorities identified by the Strategic Planning and Technical Assistance working group and the revised work programme proposed by the Standards Committee.</p>
Preparation of the standard	<p>The Codex Secretariat arranges for the preparation of a proposed draft standard. The Codex Commission decides which subsidiary body or other body should undertake the work.</p>	<p>When a decision is made to develop a new standard or to significantly revise an existing standard, the OIE Director-General decides how the work will be managed, with reference to the terms of reference of the four OIE Specialist Commissions.</p>	<p>For each topic or technical panel, the Standards Committee appoints a steward, who, in collaboration with the IPPC Secretariat, drafts a specification, taking into account the proposal for the topic. The Standards Committee reviews the specification; if approved, it is then made available on the International Phytosanitary Portal for a 60 day consultation period</p>

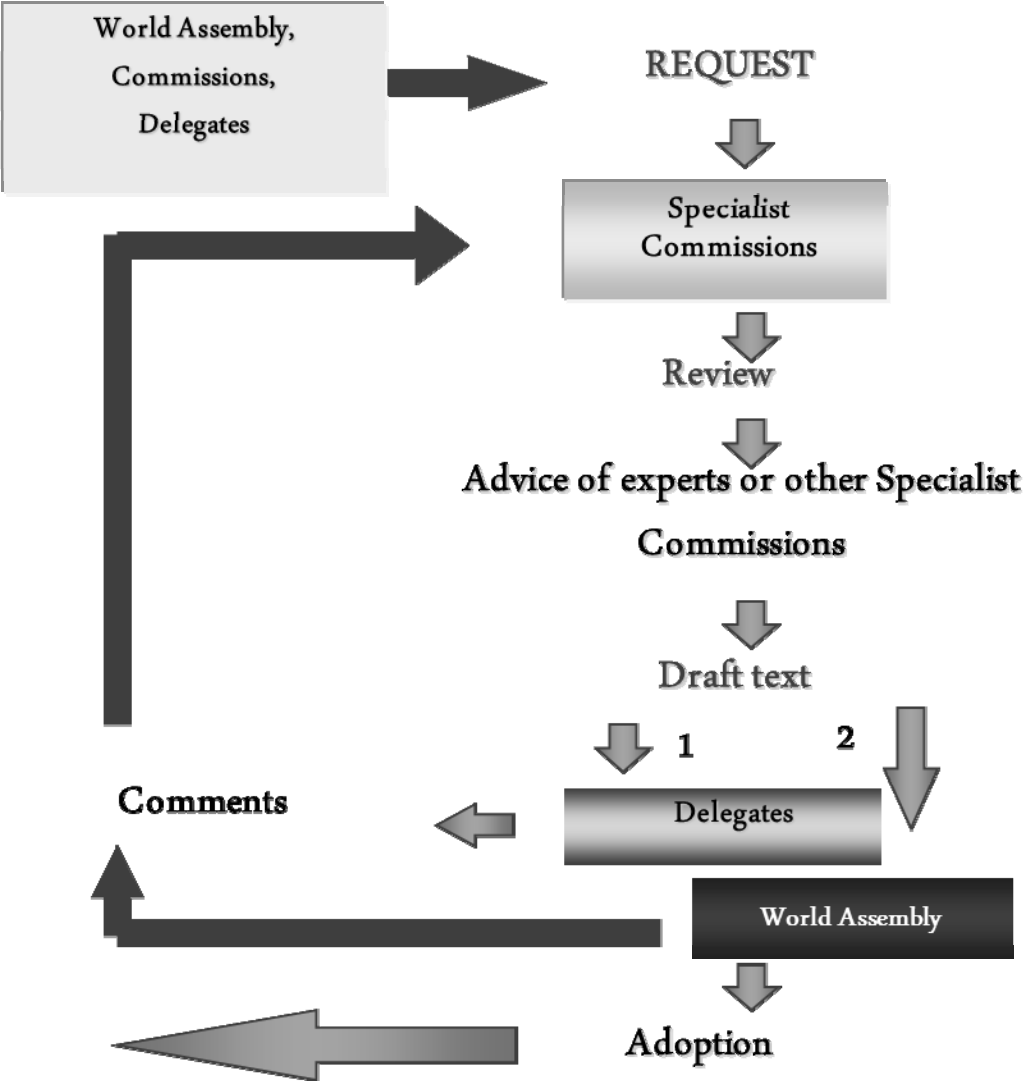
SSP	Codex	OIE	IPPC
Role of experts	<p>In the case of maximum residue levels of pesticides or veterinary drugs, the Codex Secretariat distributes the recommendations for maximum limits, when available from the JMPR and/or JECFA. Any other relevant information regarding risk assessment work conducted by FAO and WHO is also made available. In the cases of milk and milk products or individual standards for cheeses, the Secretariat distributes the recommendations of the International Dairy Federation. Codex may request specific scientific information from the expert groups/committees.</p>	<p>Expert groups are convened, with normally six members. Experts are drawn from the OIE network of Reference Centres, taking into account internationally recognised scientific expertise and geographical balance. The OIE Director-General may request the preparation of a "supporting document" containing the latest scientific information relevant to the topic. These are a valuable resource for ad hoc Groups, Working Groups and OIE Members. The Specialist Commissions determine how to incorporate appropriate risk management recommendations into the Codes, based on the recommendations of experts and the comments of OIE Members.</p>	<p>An expert drafting group (expert working group or technical panel) drafts or revises the standard in accordance with the relevant specification. The resulting draft standard is submitted to the Standards Committee.</p> <p>The expert working groups are comprised of six to ten participants, representing a wide geographic area, including a member of the Standards Committee. The selection of experts for the working group is done by nominations from governments, NPPOs or RPPOs to the Standards Committee.</p>
Opportunity of Members to provide input	<p>There are four opportunities to comment along the 8-step standard-setting procedure (twice in the accelerated procedure):</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. At step 3 on the proposed draft standard; 2. At step 5, when the proposed standard is submitted to the Commission for adoption as a draft standard; 3. At step 6, once it has been adopted as a draft standard; 4. At step 8, when the draft standard is submitted to the Commission for adoption as a Codex standard. <p>Submitted comments are sent by the Codex Secretariat to the subsidiary body for consideration at the session of the Committee, which may amend the draft in the light of the comments.</p>	<p>There are four opportunities to comment. Twice a year, OIE member countries are invited to comment on the recommendations in the reports of Specialist Commissions. Organizations with which the OIE has formal agreements may also be invited to provide advice, depending on the relevant areas of expertise.</p>	<p>Following clearance by the Standards Committee, the IPPC Secretariat sends the draft standard for member consultation to contracting parties, NPPOs, RPPOs and relevant international organizations for consultation. The draft standard is posted on the International Phytosanitary Portal. The length of the consultation period is 100 days. Comments are submitted through the IPPC contact point. Considering the comments received, the Standards Committee may decide to forward the modified draft to the Phytosanitary Commission for adoption. When the draft standard is included in the agenda for adoption, the IPPC Secretariat sends the draft standard for member consultation to contracting parties, NPPOs, RPPOs and relevant international organizations for consultation at least 14 days before the Phytosanitary Commission meeting.</p>

SSP	Codex	OIE	IPPC
<p>Adoption of the standard</p>	<p>When the draft standard reaches step 8, it is submitted to the Codex Executive Committee for review and is adopted by the Codex Alimentarius Commission.</p> <p>Codex Standards are mainly adopted by consensus among Members, and decisions to adopt or amend standards may be taken by voting only if efforts to reach consensus have failed.</p> <p>The Codex procedure allows the creation of a standard in one year; for many standards steps 6 and 7 are omitted and the majority of work is completed in 2 - 4 years</p>	<p>OIE standards can only be adopted at the OIE General Session, the annual meeting of the World Assembly of Delegates, which is the OIE's highest authority. In nearly all cases, standards are adopted by consensus. If consensus cannot be reached, a two-thirds majority vote allows for the adoption of a standard.</p> <p>The normal cycle for the adoption of new texts in the Codes is two years. In the case of emergency situations warranting a more rapid procedure, standards may be developed within a shorter period. Less significant modifications to existing texts may also be undertaken in a one year period, if member countries agree to the proposed modifications.</p>	<p>The Phytosanitary Commission adopts the standards according to rule X.2 of the Rules of Procedure of the Commission. Rule X.2 states that where consensus is not reached on a proposal for the adoption of a standard which has been introduced before the Phytosanitary Commission for the first time, the proposed standard is referred back to the appropriate body, together with its comments thereon, for further consideration. If the standard is submitted for adoption the second time and no consensus is obtained, Rule VI of the Phytosanitary Commission is applicable and a voting procedure is undertaken. IPPC's standard-setting procedures are flexible and periodically reviewed. The media time for approval of a new standard in the IPPC framework is 3.5 years.</p>

ANNEX 1 - CODEX STANDARD-SETTING PROCEDURE FLOWCHART



ANNEX 2 - OIE STANDARD-SETTING PROCESS FLOWCHART



ANNEX 3 - PICTORAL SCHEME OF THE IPPC STANDARD-SETTING PROCEDURE

Example: Extended time schedule-regular process

Year 1												
January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	
		Preparing for CPM: No work on standard setting	Preparing for SC: No other work on standard setting						Deadline for submission of drafts to Secretariat →		31 Dec	
									Preparing for SC: No other work on standard setting			
Year 2												
January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	
Secretariat edits drafts	Secretariat formats drafts and submits drafts to SC	Preparing for CPM: No work on standard setting	Preparing for SC: No other work on standard setting	SC or SC-7 reviews drafts	Secretariat formats drafts and translation of drafts (6 weeks)	20 June	Member consultation (100 days)		Secretariat compiles member comments (2 months)		Stewards reviews member comments (for 3 month)	
									Preparing for SC: No other work on standard setting			
Year 3												
January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	
(Cont.) Stewards reviews member comments (for 3 month)		SC-7 studies drafts	Preparing for CPM: No work on standard setting	SC-7 reviews drafts	SC studies drafts (5 months)				Preparing for SC	SC reviews drafts in meeting	Sect. edits drafts	Secretariat formats drafts and Translation of drafts (2 months)
Year 4												
January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	
CPM members review drafts (6 weeks prior to CPM)		Comments due (14 days prior to CPM)	CPM									

WORKSHOP ON SPS COORDINATION AT NATIONAL AND REGIONAL LEVELS

Monday, 17 October 2011
Breakout session (11.30-13.00)

List of suggested questions to facilitate the discussion

1. Who are the main actors involved in the coordination of SPS issues?
2. What are the main impacts originating from the lack of coordination on SPS issues?
3. What are the main obstacles faced in the coordination among the different stakeholders?
4. What can be done to minimize these obstacles?
5. Who should be responsible for their development?
6. Have you benefited from regional coordination initiatives? If so, to what extent? Is the creation of regional economic communities the answer to improve coordination at the Regional Level? What are the challenges faced?
7. What could be done to further improve technical assistance provided in this area by Members/WTO Secretariat?
8. What are best practices in establishing a sustainable coordination mechanism on SPS?

By the end of the break-out session, each group is expected to have identified:

1. Impact originating from poor coordination
2. Causes of poor coordination
3. Solutions to improve coordination
4. Who should be responsible to implement these solutions

WORKSHOP ON SPS COORDINATION AT THE NATIONAL AND REGIONAL LEVELS

17 October 2011

CHAIR SUMMARY

1. The WTO Secretariat held a workshop on SPS Coordination at the National and Regional Levels on Monday, 17 October. The programme of the workshop can be found in G/SPS/GEN/1110.
2. The objective of the workshop was to bring together officials responsible for participation in and implementation of the SPS Agreement, Codex, IPPC and OIE for an in depth discussion, at a technical level, on best practices in coordination at national and regional levels.
3. The first part of the workshop included presentations by the three Sisters that addressed (i) benefits and weaknesses of their standard setting procedures, (ii) concerns raised regarding these procedures and (iii) changes under consideration. The Secretariat presented its background document (G/SPS/GEN/1115) that describes and compares the procedures used by the Three Sisters to develop standards, as some WTO Members have suggested that effective national coordination may be hampered by assumptions that the standard-setting procedures of the Three Sisters were the same.

National Coordination

4. In a session on national coordination, the STDF Secretariat presented the preliminary recommendations of the Study on National SPS Coordination Mechanisms in Africa. These recommendations are to: (1) raise SPS awareness, (2) clarify organizational matters, (3) build on existing mechanisms (4) follow "good mentoring practices", (5) establish clear and effective communication strategies, and (6) promote sustainability.
5. The Philippines and Belize shared their experiences of coordination at the national level. Belize provided information on its creation of a National SPS Committee, while the Philippines shared experience related to increasing awareness of the SPS Agreement.

Regional Coordination

6. Concerning regional coordination, a scoping study undertaken by STDF regarding African regional SPS protocols was presented. This study flagged concerns about the ability of the Regional Economic Communities to assist Members implement the SPS Agreement. The study described inadequate and highly fragmented SPS frameworks, slow decision-making and a very limited political awareness. The African Union and COMESA agreed with some the study's conclusions, and noted that changes were underway.
7. MERCOSUR and COMESA provided their experiences of coordination at the regional levels. COMESA outlined the role of its SPS Sub Committee and how they propose to implement a "Simplified Trading Regime". MERCOSUR provided specific information on its regulatory framework concerning SPS matters, including harmonization and coordination within the region.

Conclusions

8. The problems identified by Members that arose from poor coordination at the national level were very similar, and included:

- (a) Duplication of work, resulting in the waste of scarce resources;
- (b) Conflicting / non-coherent positions, which lead to a loss of credibility of competent authorities;
- (c) Missing opportunities, including for training and capacity-building assistance; and
- (d) Loss of market access.

9. Among the identified causes of poor coordination was the existence of many players involved in SPS matters, as well as limited human resources. The lack of awareness of the importance of SPS at the political level and by other stakeholders was also frequently mentioned.

10. I believe that the workshop was a very good opportunity for Members to share their experiences on coordination at national and regional levels. Members took the opportunity to exchange information on the challenges faced, but also the good practices identified, in the implementation of a good coordination mechanism.

11. The workshop resulted in a number of specific recommendations, where the responsibility of implementation remains with the Members themselves. The recommendations include:

- (a) The need to identify someone as specifically responsible for national coordination;
- (b) The establishment of an effective mechanism to share information;
- (c) The establishment of an SPS policy at the national level;
- (d) The creation of an SPS agenda for work at the national level;
- (e) Continual sharing of experiences on coordination;
- (f) Ensuring that all stakeholders understand the importance of SPS issues;
- (g) Involvement of the private sector and academia in the coordination of SPS issues;
- (h) The building of institutions, guaranteeing continuity.

12. The workshop also resulted in two specific recommendations for consideration by the Committee:

- (a) Development of guidelines on national coordination; and/or
- (b) Development of a manual of good practices on coordination.

13. A detailed report of the workshop will be circulated by the Secretariat after the Committee meeting.

14. This is the end of my report on the workshop.

INFORMAL MEETING ON AD HOC CONSULTATIONS

18 October 2011

CHAIR SUMMARY

1. On Tuesday, 18 October, I held an informal meeting on ad hoc consultations. I recalled that at the June meeting some Members had expressed support for G/SPS/W/259 as the basis for future discussions; however, other Members had indicated that the document did not reflect certain elements of their proposals.
2. To advance our work, I had invited Members to submit comments in writing on G/SPS/W/259 by 29 July 2011, and requested the Secretariat to incorporate all comments received into a new revision of the document. This revision, G/SPS/W/259/Rev.1, was the basis of our work at the informal meeting on ad hoc consultations.
3. Given the nature and number of brackets in document G/SPS/W/259/Rev.1, I suggested to proceed paragraph-by-paragraph with a goal of reaching consensus on as many points as possible. Although not easy, we managed to find consensus on the majority of brackets contained in the preamble of the draft. As it relates to the general considerations, consensus was achieved in paragraphs 1 and 2. Time did not allow us to continue with the review of the rest of the document.
4. I asked the Secretariat to produce a new revision of the document that reflects the outcome of our informal meeting on ad hoc consultations, up to paragraph 5. This revised version will be the basis of our work for the next informal meeting, to be held on the margins of the March 2012 meetings. I would hope that further discussions at the next meeting will allow us to reach consensus on the remaining brackets.
5. That is the end of my report.

INFORMAL MEETING ON ISSUES ARISING FROM THE THIRD REVIEW OF THE OPERATION AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE SPS AGREEMENT

18 October 2011

CHAIR SUMMARY

1. At the informal meeting of the SPS Committee held on 18 October, we discussed ways to advance work on issues arising from the Third Review.
2. I first recalled that at its March 2010 meeting, the Committee had adopted the report of the Third Review, which is contained in document G/SPS/53. The report identifies several issues where the Committee has agreed to further work.
3. At the October 2010 informal meeting, Members agreed to prioritize three issues for consideration of further work: (i) cooperation between the SPS Committee and the Three Sisters; (ii) improving the procedure for monitoring the use of international standards; and (iii) control, inspection and approval procedures (Article 8 and Annex C).
4. On cooperation between the SPS Committee and the 3 Sisters, we discussed two items. The first was the workshop on national and regional coordination, held on Monday 17 October. The second was the joint Canada-Japan proposal (G/SPS/W/258) for a formal decision by the SPS Committee to implement Recommendation 3 of the October 2009 workshop by encouraging the 3 Sisters to undertake joint work on cross-cutting issues.
5. The Secretariat gave a brief report on the coordination workshop, and highlighted two specific recommendations resulting from it, namely a possibility to develop guidelines for good national coordination and/or a manual of good practices. Japan and some other Members expressed appreciation for the workshop, and noted that it had provided a good opportunity to share experiences in SPS coordination and to learn about the 3 Sisters' standard-setting procedures.
6. Canada recalled that under the Third Review, it was agreed that the Committee should follow up on the recommendations resulting from the October 2009 workshop. It noted, supported by Japan, that they had proposed to submit recommendation 3 of that workshop for a formal decision (G/SPS/W/258) by the Committee precisely in this spirit.
7. The IPPC noted that there is increasing cooperation between the 3 Sisters and that it had taken due note of the proposed decision, but also cautioned that the 3 Sisters are distinct organizations with different governing bodies and procedures, and that therefore, cooperation in some fields could be more challenging than in others.
8. Several Members supported formal adoption of the draft decision proposed by Canada and Japan, and it was agreed that it be considered for adoption at this formal meeting of the SPS Committee. Argentina, Chile and Egypt also flagged that the Committee should consider specifying in the future the particular cross-cutting areas in which it would wish to see deeper cooperation between the 3 Sisters.
9. In relation to improving the procedure to monitor the use of international standards, we had on the table submissions from Argentina, Canada, Japan and New Zealand.

10. Several Members noted that the current procedure to monitor the process of international harmonization does not capture all situations that involve international standards, and emphasised the need to correctly reflect the use of international standards in annual monitoring. New Zealand suggested in this regard that that when raising specific trade concerns, Members identify any relevant standard that may be applicable in the situation. In Japan's view, it would be constructive to collect, as a first step, information on why Members are underutilizing the existing system. Argentina and Chile reiterated their call to review the current procedure to monitor the process of international harmonization, contained in document G/SPS/11/Rev.1, in order to ensure monitoring is up-to-date and effective.

11. The IPPC presented an on-going project to systematically look at the implementation of IPPC standards, and indicated that it could perhaps inform the Committee about this work at the March meeting. Codex explained how its regional committees monitor the national application of Codex standards. Chile suggested that it would be useful for Members and the Sister organizations to work together to find effective ways to monitor the use of international standards.

12. I concluded our discussion on this point by inviting Members to submit, prior to the next informal meeting, any specific submissions regarding the underutilization of the current monitoring procedure or proposals for its revision.

13. Under the third prioritized issue, control, inspection and approval procedures (Article 8 and Annex C), we discussed submissions from Canada, Japan and New Zealand.

14. These Members reiterated their position that before moving on to consider the most effective way to implement Article 8 and Annex C, Members should share their experiences with control, inspection and approval procedures. All three thanked the EU for having presented its approach to SPS audits at the June informal meeting.

15. To advance our work under this point, I encouraged Members to continue sharing their experiences with control, inspection, approval procedures.

16. I concluded the informal meeting by inviting Members to submit, in advance of our next informal meeting, other specific inputs on the identified priority issues and on how to advance the work of the Committee on issues resulting from the Third Review of the SPS Agreement.

INFORMAL MEETING ON SPS-RELATED PRIVATE STANDARDS

18 October 2011

CHAIR SUMMARY

1. An informal meeting on the implementation of the agreed actions with respect to SPS-related private standards and other identified actions was held on Tuesday, 18 October 2011.
2. I recalled that at the June meeting of the Committee, I had invited Members to (i) submit specific proposals on how to implement the five agreed actions; (ii) discuss among themselves proposed changes to the title of Action 6 before the October meeting to try and resolve differences and; (iii) submit suggestions of how to move forward on Actions 7 to 12.
3. I noted that comments had been received from nine Members by the 29 July deadline: Australia, Brazil, Canada, the European Union, Indonesia, Japan, New Zealand, Peru and the United States.
4. I invited the Committee to first discuss the five agreed actions and asked for concrete suggestions on how to implement these actions.
5. Regarding Action 1, some Members stressed the need to first agree on a working definition of SPS-related private standards, as a basis for the work on the remaining agreed actions. Brazil and several other Members suggested the establishment of a deadline for Members to submit proposals on a working definition of SPS-related private standards. Some Members also noted that the 3 Sisters should be involved in the work on a definition. It was pointed out that the text of Action 1 already contained a proposed working definition of an SPS-related private standard which should serve as a basis to advance the work. However, other Members suggested that Annex A of the SPS Agreement related to government measures and not private standards.
6. Regarding Actions 2 to 5, some Members argued that a lack of consensus on Action 1 should not hinder progress on the implementation of Actions 2 to 5, as there was no agreement to sequence the five agreed actions. Other Members stressed that a definition of SPS-related private standards was necessary to proceed with the implementation of the other actions, for instance to determine which issues should be reported to the SPS Committee by the 3 Sisters. Some noted that Actions 2 through 5, however, could be taken almost simultaneously once a definition was agreed.
7. Regarding Actions 2, 3 and 5, Brazil suggested that (i) the Committee be informed of the actions taken by the Secretariat in conjunction with Codex, IPPC and OIE, as well as by other WTO fora; and (ii) Codex, IPPC and OIE also include in their reports to the Committee actions taken in relation to SPS-related private standards.
8. On Action 2, Indonesia noted that organizations or entities planning to impose private standards should communicate this in advance to the SPS Committee and consult with the 3 Sisters.
9. On Action 3, Canada suggested that the Secretariat could circulate reports of any relevant discussions in other WTO fora concerning private standards.
10. On Action 4, Indonesia proposed that a mechanism be put in place to allow governments to inform stakeholders in developing countries of SPS-related private standards.
11. Regarding Action 5, some Members reiterated the importance of a definition of SPS-related private standards to avoid confusion in the implementation of the agreed actions. Other Members

reiterated that sequencing was not necessary with regards to the agreed actions, or any other relevant actions to address SPS-related private standards.

12. The IPPC flagged that private standards had not yet been identified in the plant health area, and that its governing body would need to agree to add the issue to its work programme. A working definition of SPS-related private standards could inform the reporting that the IPPC provides to the SPS Committee. Codex also highlighted the importance of a working definition of SPS-related private standards and reported that it was undertaking discussions on private standards in the framework of Codex regional bodies. Codex welcomed continued cooperation with the SPS Committee, IPPC and the OIE on this issue.

13. Chile suggested that it could be useful to encourage the private standard-setting bodies to participate as observers in the work of the Codex and OIE, so as to improve mutual understanding and identify ways to collaborate in the future and also benefit from a scientific and transparency stand point. Finally the Committee and the 3 Sisters would benefit with regards to the implementation of international standards.

14. Due to a lack of time, Actions 6 to 12 were only briefly discussed. Brazil and Argentina requested that these actions be on the agenda of the next informal meeting on private standards. Other Members noted that there had been no consensus on proposed possible Actions 6 to 12 and addressed the need to first concentrate on making progress on agreed Actions 1 to 5.

15. With a view to the Committee quickly agreeing on a working definition, I invited Members to submit specific proposals on a working definition of SPS-related private standards by 13 January 2012. It was noted that proposals received by the deadline would only be circulated electronically by the Secretariat.

16. Members are also invited to (i) comment on the proposed definitions received; and (ii) submit proposals on the implementation of Actions 2 to 5, by 10 February 2012.

17. That is the end of my oral report.

Road to recovery

GOVERNMENT OF JAPAN
September 2011

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3. Road to recovery

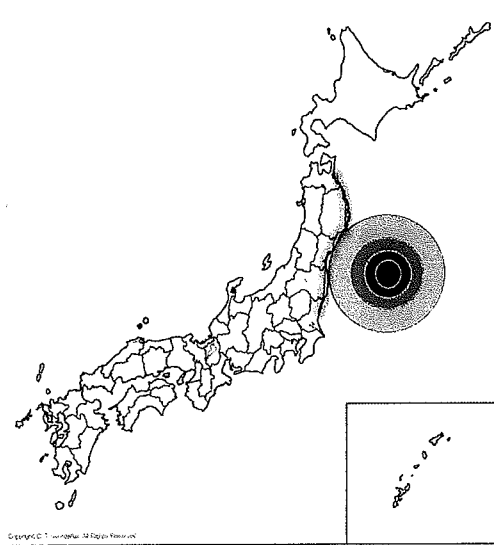
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Unprecedented challenge for Japan since 3·11

The Great East Japan Earthquake



Earthquakes

Main shock

- Magnitude : 9.0 (Mar. 11th)

Aftershocks

- Magnitude 7 or greater : 6 times
- Magnitude 6 or greater : 93 times
- Magnitude 5 or greater : 559 times (As of Aug. 31st)

Casualties

- Dead : over 15,700
- Missing: over 4,500
- Injured: over 5,700 (As of August 24th)

Evacuees

- Over 124,000

Enormous earthquake, tsunami and nuclear accident

Source: Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry

3

Emergency efforts

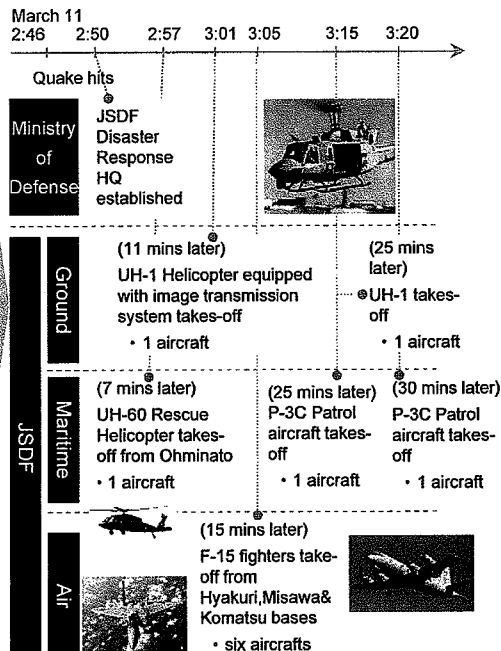
Example 1) Self-Defense Force's immediate rescue activities

The JSDF held its largest emergency drill "Michinoku ALERT 2008"

- Drill dates** Oct 31 – Nov 1, 2008
- Hypothesis** Quake approx magnitude 6 off Miyagi Pref coast, tsunami hits Sanriku coast
 - Drill conducted in region badly affected by this disaster
- Participants** Total 18,000 participants in 22 towns in Iwate & Miyagi Pref, and 6 prefectures of Tohoku Region
 - 9,839 SDF personnel
- Drill Details** In cooperation with local authorities, fire dept, residents, practiced life rescue and welfare support
 - After the drill, held regular meetings between the city/town/village & the unit in charge during the drill
 - Each time, they checked on communities at risk of isolation from a tsunami



11 aircraft responded within a mere 30 mins after the disaster headquarter established



Speedy expansion of rescue operations

Ground JSDF No. 21 Infantry Regiment, stationed at Akita Garrison, arrived in Kamaishi City, Iwate Pref. approx 7:30am

- After establishing the ir base, they commenced rescue operations for Hakozaiki Town, which was completely isolated due to roads being cut by the tsunami.

All debris was removed 2 days later, and emergency goods were delivered twice daily to the community



Source: Ministry of Defense; article search; The Boston Consulting Group

4

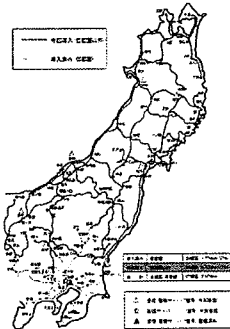
Emergency efforts

Example(2) Earthquake Early Warning system for Shinkansen

JR East introduces early earthquake warning system

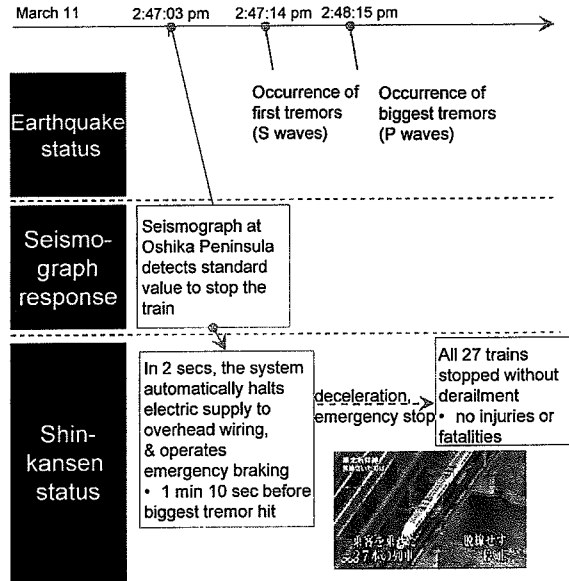
Since the 2004 Mid-Niigata Pref. Earthquake, ¥50-60B has been invested in earthquake disaster prevention measures.

- Within the JR East area, earthquake measurement equipment has been improved and increased, and the time from early tremor detection, to electric supply cut has been reduced from 3 to 2 seconds
 - Seismographs at 62 locations were upgraded to the latest models in 2005
 - New seismographs were installed at 28 coastal locations in 2006
 - 97 installed in 2010
- By 2009, all carriages of the Tohoku Shinkansen were fitted with an early earthquake warning system



Source: JR East; NHK; SankeiBiz; The Boston Consulting Group

Succeed in making an emergency stop without derailing



Foreign assistance and rescue efforts



US Navy/US Pacific Command (Operation Tomodachi)



Ministry of Defence

Source: Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry

Great support of the International Community

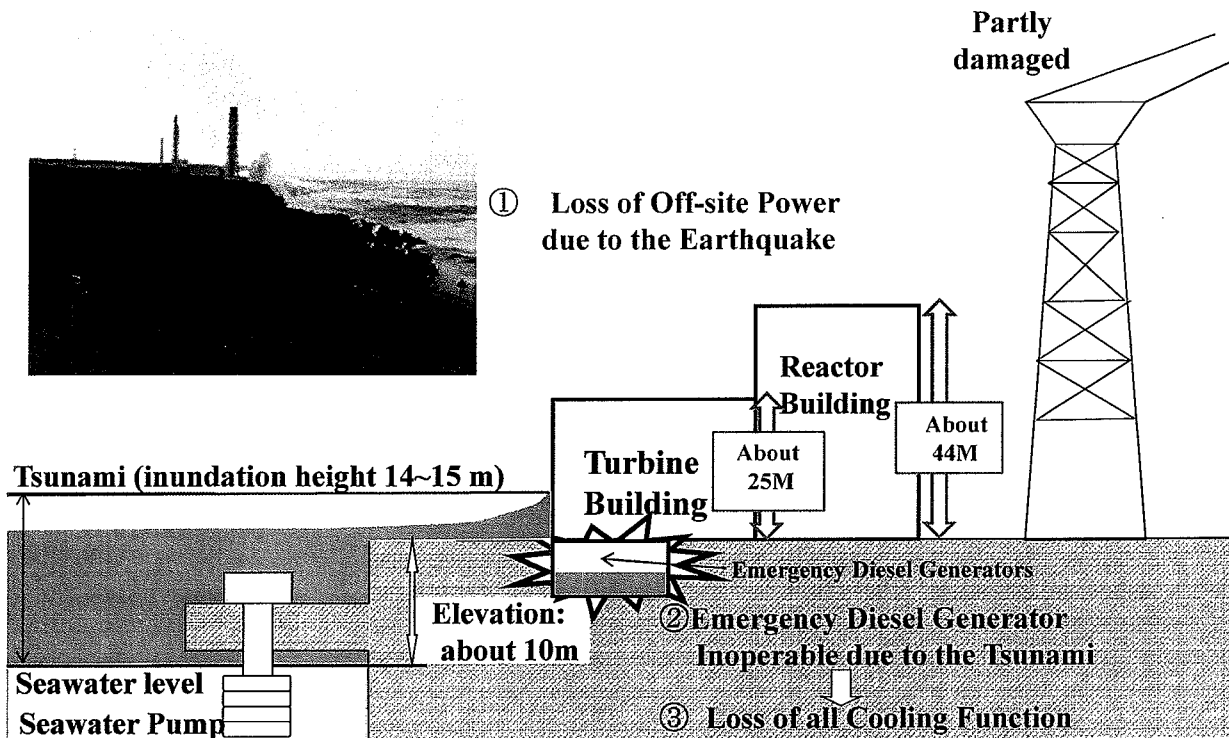
Assistance offered from

- 163 countries and regions
 - 43 international organizations
- (As of August 17th)

Rescue teams were sent from 29 countries, regions and international organizations

(As of August 18th)

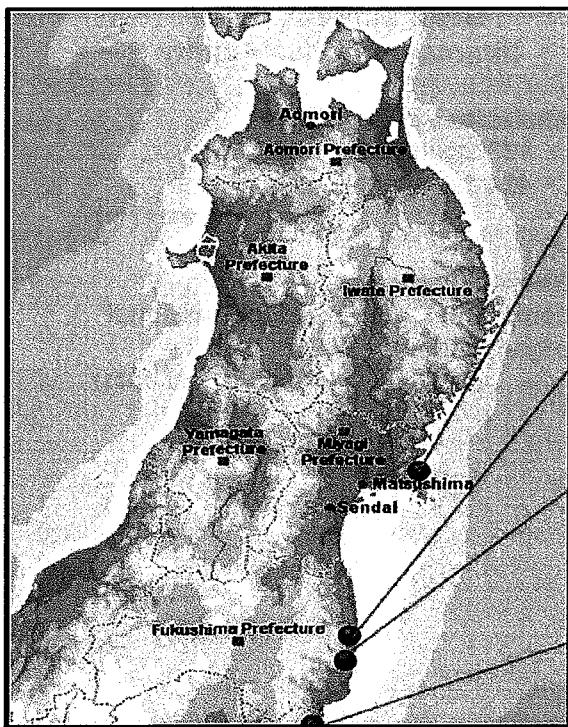
Cause of the Accident and Damage at Fukushima Dai-ichi Nuclear Power Station



7

Nuclear Power Stations Nuclear Reactors near Epicenter of the Earthquake

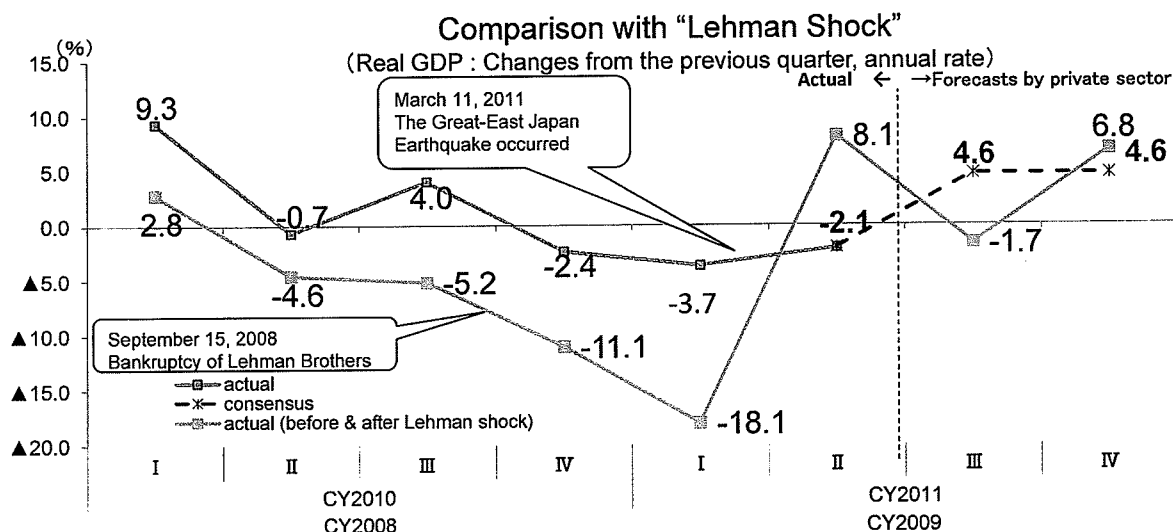
4 Nuclear Power Stations with 14 Units



		automatic shut down	cold shut down
Onagawa			
Unit 1	524 MW, 1984-	✓	✓
Unit 2	825 MW, 1995-	✓	✓
Unit 3	825 MW, 2002-	✓	✓
Fukushima Dai-ichi			
Unit 1	460 MW, 1971-	✓	
Unit 2	784 MW, 1974-	✓	
Unit 3	784 MW, 1976-	✓	
Unit 4	784 MW, 1978-		
Unit 5	784 MW, 1978-	Periodical inspection	✓
Unit 6	1,100 MW, 1979-		✓
Fukushima Dai-ni			
Unit 1	1,100 MW, 1982-	✓	✓
Unit 2	1,100 MW, 1984-	✓	✓
Unit 3	1,100 MW, 1985-	✓	✓
Unit 4	1,100 MW, 1987-	✓	✓
Tokai Dai-ni			
Unit 1	1,100 MW, 1978-	✓	✓

8

Macroeconomic impact



[Source] "National Accounts" (Cabinet Office), "Monthly Survey of Japanese Economic Forecasts" (Economic Planning Association, August 11, 2011)

According to private sector forecasts, Japan's economy will grow in Q3 and Q4 2011 after slowing down in the Q1 and Q2.

The degree of the slowdown is expected to be much less than after the "Lehman Shock."

Source: "National Accounts" (Cabinet Office), "Monthly Survey of Japanese Economic Forecasts" (Economic Planning Association, August 11, 2011)
 MET (Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry) "Economic Impact of the Great East Japan Earthquake and Current Status of Japan" (September 1, 2011)

9

Estimated Economic Damage of the Tohoku-Pacific Ocean Earthquake and Plan for Reconstruction

Damaged Stocks in Disaster Areas

*estimated by the Cabinet Office of Japan (June 24, 2011)

	The Great East Japan Earthquake
Buildings, etc. (housing, offices, plants, machinery, etc.)	approx. <u>10.4</u> trillion yen
Lifeline utilities (Water service, gas, electricity, and communication and broadcasting facilities)	approx. <u>1.3</u> trillion yen
Social infrastructure (River, road, harbors, drainage, and airport, etc.)	approx. <u>2.2</u> trillion yen
Others (including agriculture, forestry and fisheries)	approx. <u>3.0</u> trillion yen
Total	approx. <u>16.9</u> trillion yen

Plan for Recovery and Reconstruction

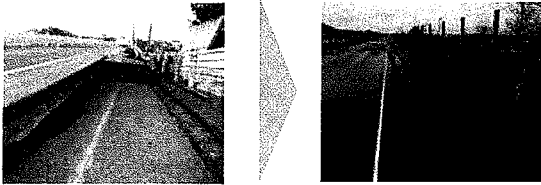
*from the speech of Prime Minister Kan on Apr. 1 and Apr. 12

Short-term: clearing debris, erecting temporary housing, rehabilitating industrial facilities
 Mid and long-term: creating disaster-resilient local community, eco-friendly social system, and welfare-oriented society
 "Reconstruction Planning Council" established
 Compiling supplementary budgets and enacting / amending relevant laws

10

Speedy reconstruction of infrastructure

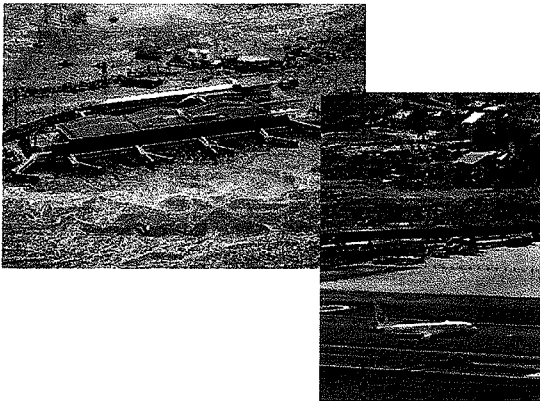
The Tohoku Express Way



The Tohoku Expressway

- transport and commercial artery which connects Tohoku and Kanto regions.
- 347 km out of 675 km of the expressway was damaged in the earthquake on March 11, but traffic restriction was lifted on March 24th, following the completion of emergency restoration measures.

Sendai Airport



Sendai Airport

- The reconstruction of Sendai Airport which was badly damaged by the tsunami showed surprisingly rapid progress thanks to the cooperation between the US Armed Forces and Japanese Self-Defense Forces. The entire runway was restored and became useable by March 29th.
- Passenger flights from Haneda-Sendai and Osaka(Itami)-Sendai resumed operation on April 13th.

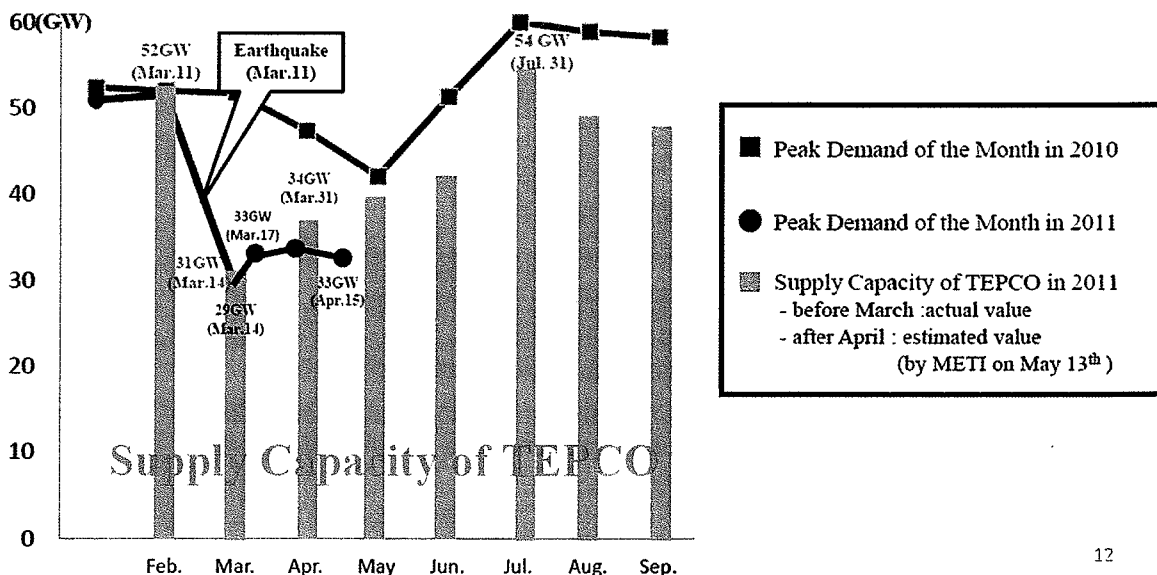
Source: METI(Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry) "Economic Impact of the Great East Japan Earthquake and Current Status of Japan" (May 30,2011)

11

Impact on Energy Supply/Demand in Japan

Tokyo Electric Power Company supplies electricity to an area with 42 million people and 40% of Japan's GDP, but lost 40% of its generation capacity after the earthquake and tsunami.

We are making the utmost efforts to match supply and demand during the peak-load summer on both the demand and supply side.



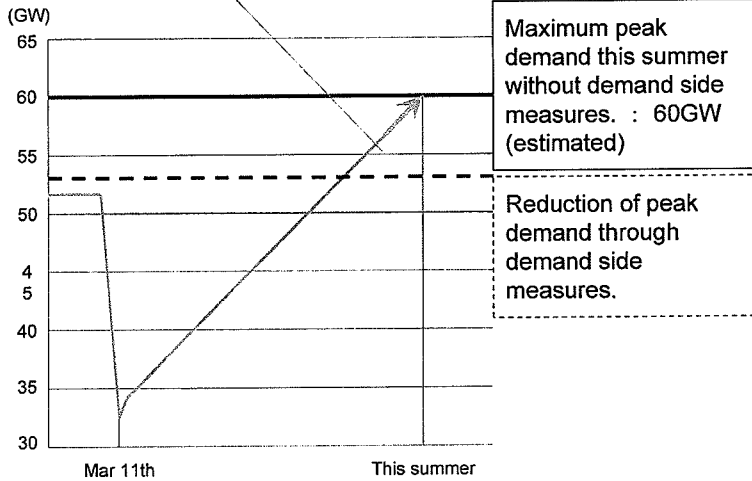
Source: Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry

12

Electric supply/demand up to this summer

TEPCO's electric supply capacity

As of May 13, TEPCO is expected to be able to supply 56.2GW* of electricity this summer.
TEPCO plans to further increase power supply.
 • TEPCO is expected to supply up to 1.4GW to Tohoku Electric Power out of its 56.2GW capacity.



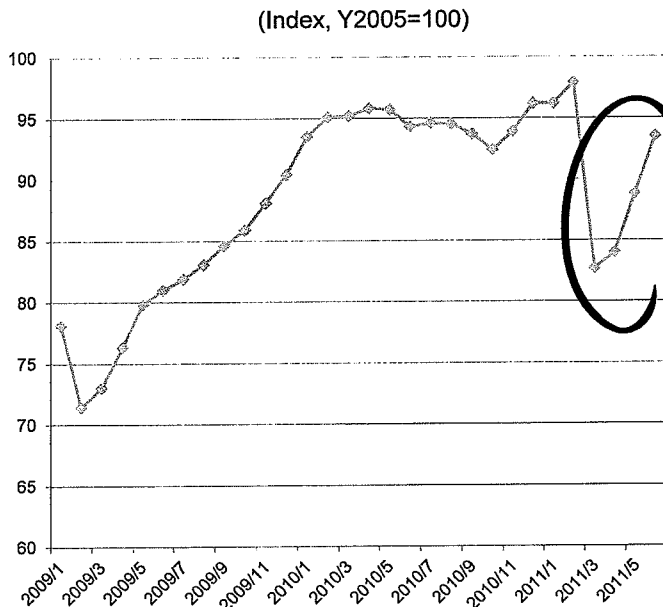
Source: METI (Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry) "Economic Impact of the Great East Japan Earthquake and Current Status of Japan" (May 30, 2011)

- With reinforcement of the power supply, Tokyo Electric Power Company decided, in principle, to not carry out "Rolling Blackouts."
- After March 29th, "Rolling Blackouts" have been discontinued.
- TEPCO expects that it will be able to supply electricity up to 56.2GW this summer.
- With TEPCO's action to add further power supply and demand side measures, "Rolling Blackouts" is expected to be avoided throughout this summer.

13

Speedy recovery of supply chain beyond expectation

Production Index of mining and manufacturing industry



Month-over-month growth rate of mining and manufacturing industry production was 5.7% in May 2011

- the largest ever since recorded

Automobile industry has led the growth

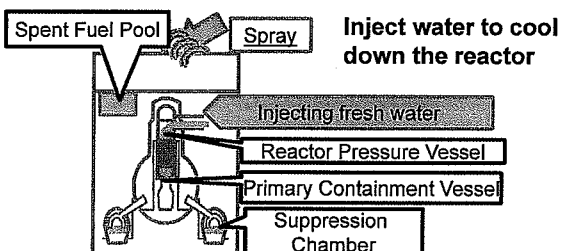
- Has realized supply chain recovery at a speed faster than expected
- Related industries have also achieved high growth rate.
 - Metal
 - Chemical products
 - Transport equipment

Note: Data of 2011/6 is estimated based on production growth prospects 5.3% as of July 2011
Source: METI (Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry) "Japan's Challenges Towards Recovery" (METI, July, 2011).

14

Utmost effort to settle Fukushima Dai-ichi NPS accident

Various effort to cool down the reactor and prevent radioactive substances dispersion



Spraying synthetic materials on the surface of the ground and debris to prevent radioactive substances dispersion



Source: METI(Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry) "Japan's Challenges Towards Recovery" (July,2011)

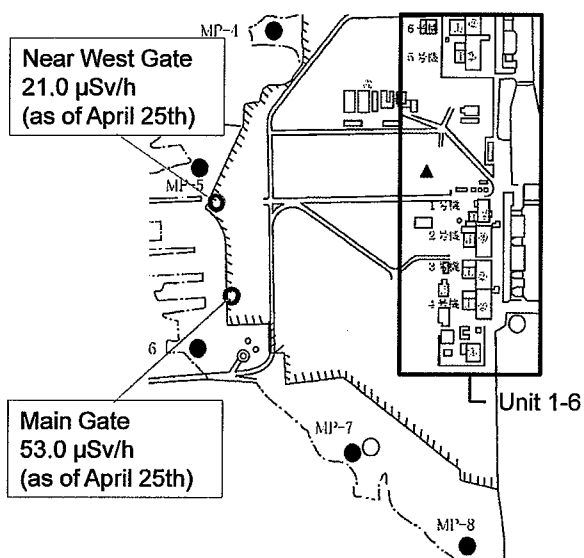
Contain the spread of radioactive substances

- Apr. 2
 - Highly contaminated water discovered leaking into the sea.
- Apr. 6
 - Leak of contaminated water into the sea was stopped.
- Apr. 12
 - Transfer of stagnant water in the trench of Unit2 to the condenser started.
- Apr. 14
 - Silt fence was installed to block the spread of contaminated water.
- Apr. 19
 - Transfer of stagnant water in the trench of Unit 2 to the radioactive waste treatment facilities started.
- May 21
 - Mega float arrived at Fukushima Dai-ichi NPS
- July 1
 - Transfer of low radioactive accumulated water to Mega Float started
- July 2
 - Full scale operation of circulating injecting cooling started

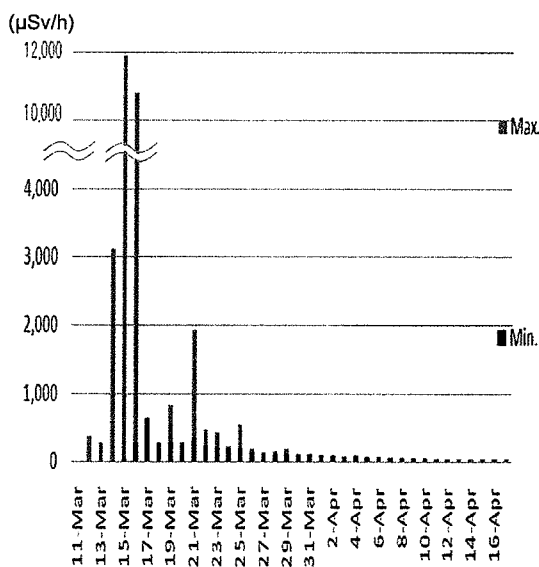
15

Rigorous and intensive monitoring

Monitoring posts and the readings at the Fukushima Dai-ichi NPS



Environmental Radioactivity Level at the Fukushima Dai-ichi NPS



Source: METI(Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry) "Japan's Challenges Towards Recovery" (July,2011)

16

Current Status of "Roadmap towards Restoration from the Accident at Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Station, TEPCO" (Revised edition)

September 20, 2011 Nuclear Emergency Response Headquarters Government-TEPCO Integrated Response Office
 Red colored letter: newly added to the previous version. ☆: already reported to the government. Green colored shading: achieved target

Issues	As of Apr. 17	Step 1 (around 3 months)	Step 2 (around 3 to 6 months after achieving Step1) current status (as of Sep. 20)	Mid-term issues (around 3 years)		
I. Cooling	(1) Reactor	Fresh water injection	Cooling by minimum injection rate (injection cooling) Circulating water cooling (start) ☆ Nitrogen gas injection ☆ Improvement of work environment ☆	Circulating water cooling (continued) Nitrogen gas injection (continued)	Continuous cold shutdown condition Protection against corrosion cracking of structural materials* *partially ahead of schedule	
		(2) Spent Fuel Pool	Fresh water injection	Reliability improvement in injection operation / remote-control operation *ahead of schedule Circulation cooling system (installation of heat exchanger) ☆ *partially ahead of schedule	Remote-controlled injection operation Consideration / installation of heat exchanging function	Start of removal work of fuels
	II. Mitigation	(3) Accumulated Water	Transferring water with high radiation level	Installation of storage / processing facilities ☆	Expansion ☆ / consideration of full-fledged processing facilities Decontamination ☆ / desalt processing (reuse), etc Storage / management of sludge waste etc. ☆	Installation of full-fledged water processing facilities Continuous processing of accumulated water Storage / management of sludge waste etc. Research of processing of sludge waste etc. Mitigation of contamination in the ocean
			Storing water with low radiation level	Installation of storage facilities / decontamination processing	Mitigation of contamination in the ocean	Mitigation of contamination in the ocean
III. Decontamination	(4) Groundwater	Mitigation of contamination of groundwater	(Restoration of sub-drainage pumps with expansion of storage / processing facilities)	Design / implementation of impermeable wall against groundwater	Mitigation of contamination of groundwater Establishment of impermeable wall against groundwater	
		Consideration of method of impermeable wall against groundwater	Dispersion of inhibitor	Dispersion of inhibitor (continued)	Dispersion of inhibitor	
	(5) Atmosphere / Soil	Removal / management of debris	Removal / management of debris (continued)	Installation of reactor building cover (Unit 1) ☆ Removal of debris (top of Unit 3&4 R/B) Consideration of reactor building container Installation of PCV gas control system	Removal / management of debris Removal of debris / installation of reactor building cover (Unit 3&4) Start of installation work of reactor building container Installation of PCV gas control system	
		Mitigation of contamination of groundwater	Establishment of impermeable wall against groundwater	Mitigation of contamination of groundwater	Establishment of impermeable wall against groundwater	

17

September 20, 2011 Nuclear Emergency Response Headquarters Government-TEPCO Integrated Response Office
 Red colored letter: newly added to the previous version. ☆: already reported to the government. Green colored shading: achieved object

Issues	As of Apr. 17	Step 1 (around 3 months)	Step 2 (around 3 to 6 months after achieving Step1) current status (as of Sep. 20)	Mid-term issues (around 3 years)
III. Monitoring / Decontamination	(6) Measurement, Reduction and Disclosure	Expansion, enhancement and disclosure of radiation dose monitoring in and out of the power station		Continuous environmental monitoring Continuous decontamination
		(7) Countermeasures for aftershocks, etc.	Enhancement of countermeasures against aftershocks and tsunamis, preparation for various countermeasures for radiation shielding	Consideration / start of full-fledged decontamination
IV. Environmental Improvement	(8) Radiation Control / Medical Care		(Unit 4 spent fuel pool) Installation of supporting structure ☆	Consideration / implementation of reinforcement work of each Unit ☆
		Improvement of workers' living / working environment	Improvement of radiation control / medical system	Improvement of workers' living / working environment Improvement of radiation control / medical system
Measures for Mid-term issues	(9) Staff Training / Personnel Allocation	Systematic implementation of staff training / personnel allocation		Systematic implementation of staff training / personnel allocation Response based on the plant operation plan
		Government's concept of securing safety	Establishing plant operation plan based on the safety concept	Response based on the plant operation plan

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Summary of Progress Status of "Roadmap towards Restoration from the Accident at Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Station, TEPCO"

September 20, 2011 Nuclear Emergency Response Headquarters Government-TEPCO Integrated Response Office

1. Basic policy (no change)

By bringing the reactors and spent fuel pools to a stable cooling condition and mitigating the release of radioactive materials, we will make every effort to enable evacuees to return to their homes and for all citizens to be able to secure a sound life.

2. Summary of the last one month and future plans

[Issue (1) Reactors]: Additional water injection line for more effective cooling

[Issue (3) Accumulated water]: The accumulated water level has reached the point where it is able to withstand heavy rains as well as long-term processing facility outages

[Issue (4) Groundwater]: Complete the basic design of the water shielding walls(Aug.31)

[Issue (5) Atmosphere/Soil]: Began debris removal from the top of the Unit 3 reactor building

[Issue (6) Measurement, Reduction, and Disclosure]: Evaluate the amount of radioactive materials currently released

[Issue (7) Tsunami, Reinforcement, etc.]: Completed seismic resistance evaluation for each Unit (Aug.26)

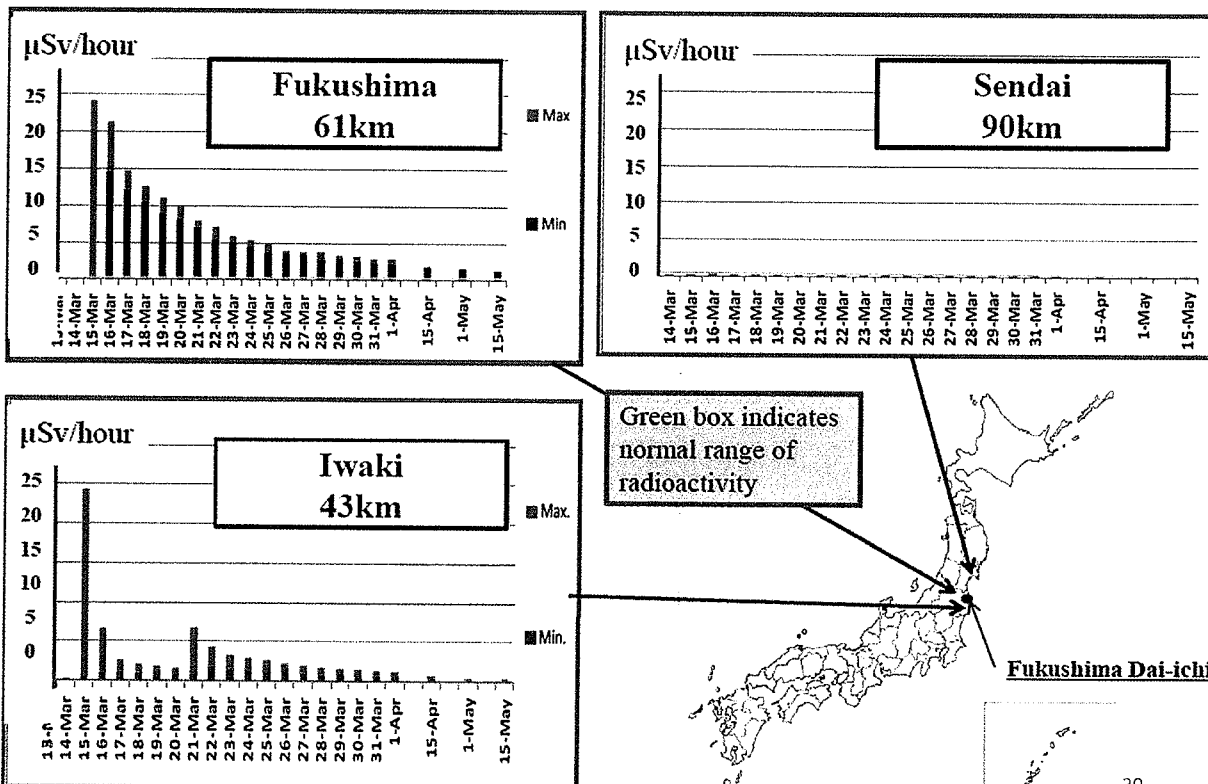
[Issue (8) Living/working environment]: Completed construction of temporary dormitory able to accommodate scheduled 1,600 persons(Aug.31)

[Issue (9) Radiation control/medical care]: Improve Health Care for workers

[Issue (10) Staff training /personnel allocation]: Continuously implement radiation staff training

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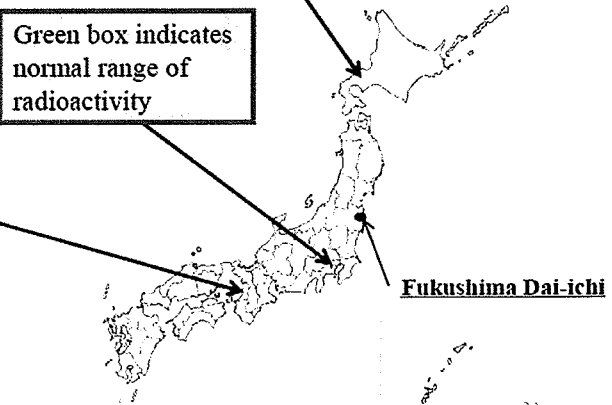
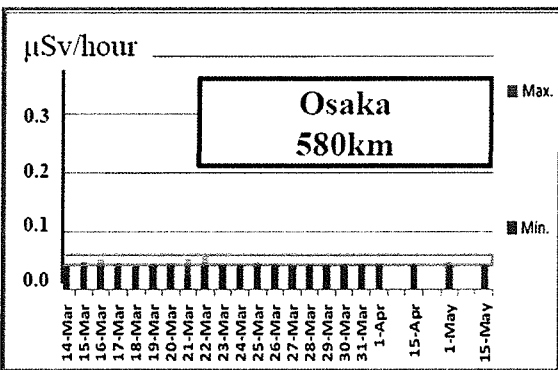
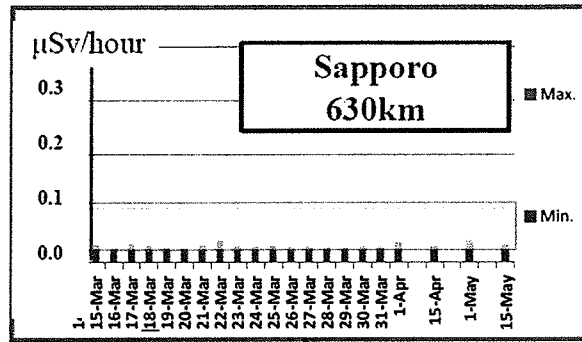
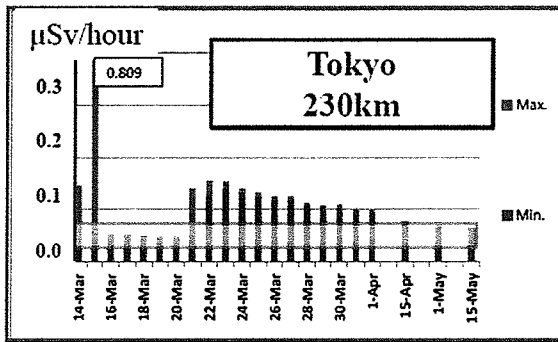
Atmospheric Readings within 100km



MEXT, Fukushima Prefectural Government

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Atmospheric Readings in Tokyo, Osaka and Sapporo



MEXT

21

Ensure the safety of food and products

Food

Inspects radioactive materials in food every day, and restricts distribution of food that fails to meet provisional regulation values taking into consideration the spread of contamination.

Fishery Products

Intensive inspections over a wide range of samples.

- Inspections are conducted on a weekly basis at each major port under the cooperation between prefectural governments, the Fisheries Agency and fishing industries.

Ensuring the safety of fishery products on the market.

- Weekly exploratory operations should be conducted in principle, and fishing operation should resume only under strict condition (e.g. after the levels of radioactive substances detected remain below the provisional regulatory values three times in a row.)

Industrial products

Inspection institutions and industry associations provide testing service of the radiation levels of export products

- Ex. The tests implemented by JAMA — which are conducted directly on various designated areas of the surface of vehicles — are showing results that fall within the range designated by the Nuclear Safety Commission of Japan as being unthreatening to human health, based on the daily readings performed by the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology in every prefecture since March 25.

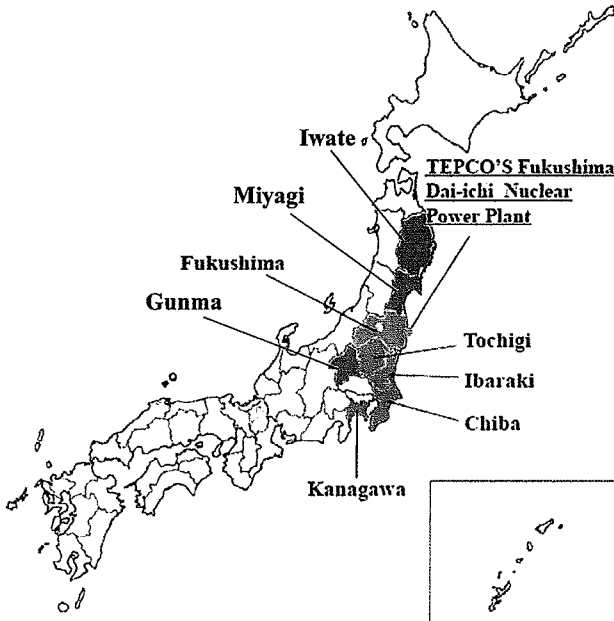
— Comments on Radiation Testing Related to the Fukushima Nuclear Power Plant Situation on JAMA website (April 18, 2011)



Note: JAMA = Japan Automobile Manufacturers Association
Source: METI (Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry) "Japan's Challenges Towards Recovery" (July, 2011), JAMA website

Safety of Food

Japan inspects radioactive materials in food every day, and restricts distribution of food that fails to meet provisional regulation values taking into consideration the spread of contamination.



Source: Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry

Instructions (as of 31 August 2011)

... To suspend the distribution of the following items.

* Fukushima Prefecture

- Raw milk *
- Non-head type leafy vegetables (e.g. spinach) *
- Head type leafy vegetables (e.g. cabbage) *
- Flowerhead brassicas (e.g. broccoli, cauliflower) *
- Turnip *
- Log grown shiitake (grown outdoor, hothouse cultivation) *
- Bamboo shoot *
- Ostrich fern *
- Ume *
- Yuzu *
- Sand lance (juvenile)
- Yamame-Cherry salmon (excluding farmed fish) *
- Japanese dace *
- Ayu (excluding farmed fish) *

* Ibaraki, Tochigi, Gunma, Chiba and

Kanagawa Prefecture

- Tea leaf

* Fukushima, Miyagi, Iwate and Tochigi Prefecture

- Beef (excluding cattle which are managed based on shipment and inspection policy)

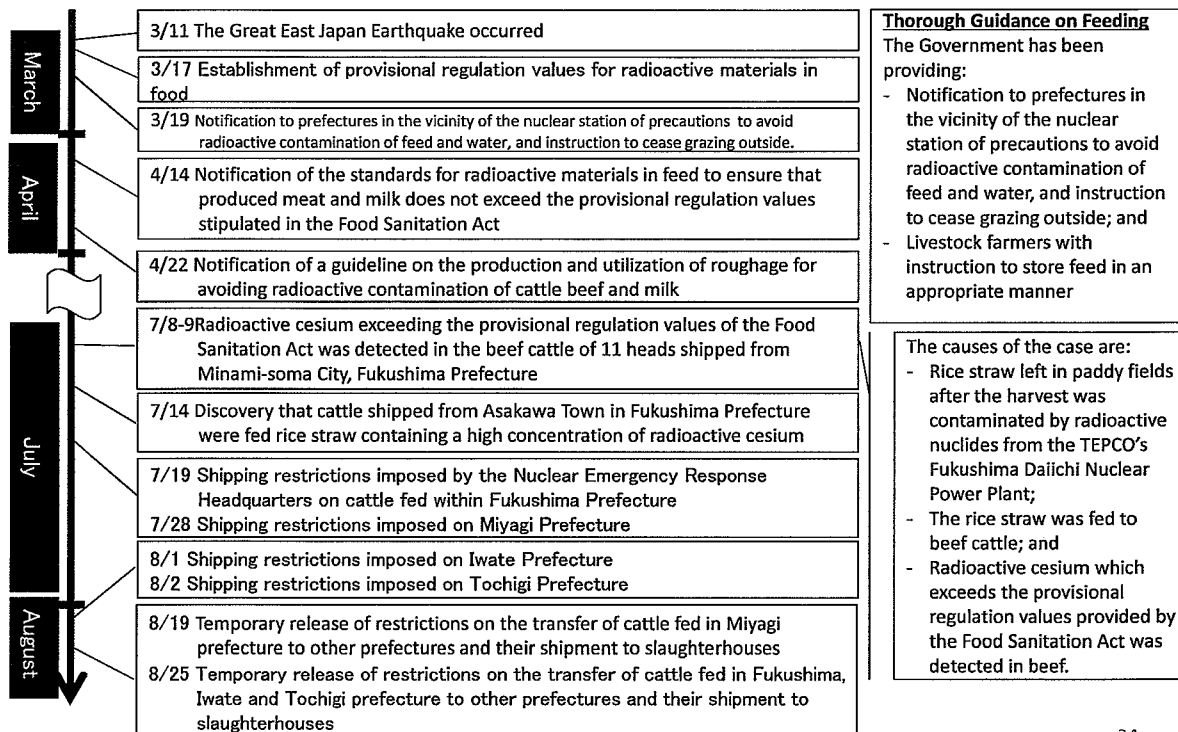
* Instructions are applied to specific areas.

Please refer to the following URL for the details of Instructions:

<http://www.mhlw.go.jp/english/topics/2011eq/index.html>

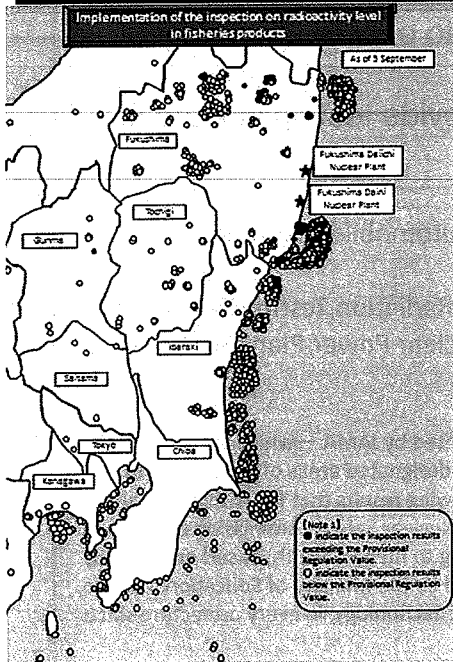
Government Actions to Ensure the Safety of Beef and Other Food

1. Overview and Background



Source: Prime Minister's Office

Safety of Fishery Products



[As of September 5th]

- Samples over provisional regulatory value:105
- +○ Samples tested:1741

Source: Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry

Intensive inspections over a wide range of samples.

Inspections on radioactive substances in fishery products are conducted on a weekly basis at each major port under the cooperation between prefectural governments, the Fisheries Agency and fishing industries.

Variety of samples

Ranging from coastal species to migratory species, as well as from surface species to bottom water species.

Samples which exceeded the provisional regulatory value

Japanese sand lance(juvenile), Japanese anchovy(juvenile), Fat greenling, Brown hakeling, Stone flounder, Goldeye rockfish, Rockfish, Ocellate spot skate, Slime flounder, Olive flounder, Marbled flounder, Mediterranean mussel, Surf clam, Northern sea urchin, Japanese mitten crab, Wakame-seaweed, Hijiki-seaweed, Arame-seaweed, Cherry salmon, Japanese smelt, ayu-sweetfish, Japanese dace, White spotted char, Willow gudgeon)

(※Exceeding values are detected only in Fukushima Prefecture, except for Japanese sand lances and Brown hakeling in Ibaraki Prefecture and Japanese smelt in a lake of Gunma Prefecture as well.)

Ensuring the safety of fishery products on the market.

Weekly exploratory operations should be conducted in principle, and fishing operation should resume only under strict condition(e.g. after the levels of radioactive substances detected remain below theprovisional regulatory value three times in a row.).

(※) No fishery is currently conducted in Fukushima.

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Safety of Drinking Water

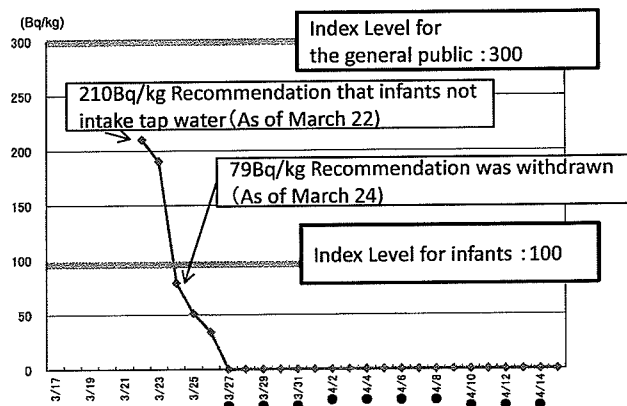
The Japanese Government has been implementing necessary measures based on its stringent criteria for radionuclides in drinking water, and monitoring radionuclide levels every day.

Index Levels for the restriction of Drinking Water intake

(Bq/kg)	Japan
radioactive Iodine(I 131)	300
radioactive cesium	200
	(for infants)100

Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare

Radioactive Iodine(I131) in Drinking-Water in Tokyo (Kanamachi purification plant)



Bureau of Waterworks, Metropolitan Tokyo Government

*On March 23, Tokyo Water Utility announced that its residents should refrain from giving infants tap water. The restriction was cancelled on March 24.

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Source: Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare

Safety of Industrial Products

- Japanese manufacturing industries spare no effort to ensure the safety of their products.
- Inspection institutions and industry associations provide testing service of the radiation levels of export products.

Example of Inspection Institutions

- Nippon Kaiji Kentei Kyokai
(International Inspection & Surveying Organization)
- SK (Shin Nihon Kentei Kyokai)
- ANCC (All Nippon Checkers Corporation)

Reference: JETRO Homepage

http://www.jetro.go.jp/world/shinsai/20110318_11.html



Source: Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry

JAMA (Japan Automobile Manufacturers Association)

Comments on Radiation Testing Related to the Fukushima Nuclear Power Plant Situation (April 18, 2011)

<extracts>

etc. The tests implemented by JAMA — which are conducted directly on various designated areas of the surface of vehicles — are showing results that fall within the range designated by the Nuclear Safety Commission of Japan as being unthreatening to human health, based on the daily readings performed by the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology in every prefecture since March 25.

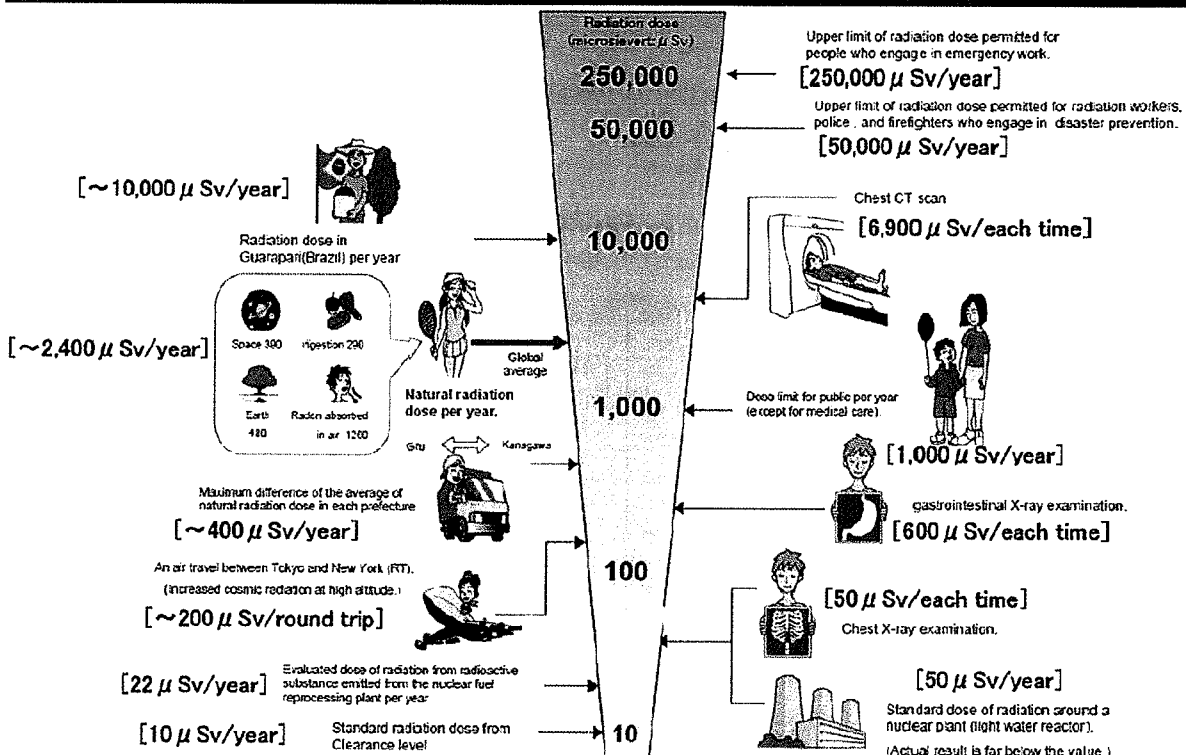
Reference: JAMA Homepage:

<http://www.jama-english.jp/release/comment/2011/110418.html>



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Radiation in Daily-life



※ Sv [Sievert] = Constant of organism effect by kind of radiation (※) × Gy [gray]

※ It is 1 in case of X ray and γ ray

MEXT makes this, based on "Nuclear power 2002" made by Agency of Natural Resources and Energy.

28

Reconstruction open to the world

Reconstruction open to the world

Based on the compassion shown by the international community, Japan must move forward strongly and quickly on reconstruction efforts, becoming an even more attractive country. The disaster brought great damage on international supply chains, and once again raised awareness among people within and outside Japan of the deep linkage between Japan and the world. In light of this, Japan must strengthen *kizuna* with the international community, and aim for reconstruction not inward-looking but open to the international community.

– "Toward Reconstruction ~ Hope beyond the Disaster" (Reconstruction Design Council)

Promoting understanding of Japan's revival within and outside Japan

Economic revitalization open to the world

- Prevent the spread of reputational damages through the dissemination of accurate information
- Restore faith in the "Japan Brand" by putting out a call to people all over the world
 - Appealing safety, High quality of products, advanced scientific technology etc.
- Maintain and develop the links established through the crisis among people around the world
 - Promote exchanges between the affected areas and other countries
- Promote foreign direct investment
 - encourage global companies to establish research bases and Asian headquarters functions in Japan
- Develop an environment to employ and accommodate foreign nationals who possess exceptional technical skills and knowledge
 - A points-based incentive immigration system¹ etc.

1. A system that awards points for career and research achievements, and grants incentive measures to foreign nationals who have acquired the requisite number of points, such as allowing them to prolong their period of residency in Japan
Source: "Toward reconstruction ~Hope beyond the Disaster" (Report to the Prime Minister of the Reconstruction Design Council in response to the Great East Japan Earthquake)

Basic Guidelines for Reconstruction in response to the Great East Japan Earthquake (decided on July 29,2011)

"Basic Guidelines for Reconstruction in response to the Great East Japan Earthquake" was decided by the Reconstruction Headquarters in response to the Great East Japan Earthquake on July 29,2011. The Guidelines constitute a blueprint for the Government and other actors to tackle numerous challenges in the reconstruction process.

BASIC CONCEPT

- Main administrative actors are municipalities.
- The central government will present guidelines for reconstruction and provide support on finance, human resources, know-how and other aspects .
- Reinforce bonds (*kizuna*) with the international community; "reconstruction open to the world"

TIMEFRAME

- 10 years for the reconstruction period (the first 5 years for the "concentrated reconstruction period")

RESPONSE ACTIONS TO BE IMPLEMENTED

- Measures for the recovery and reconstruction of the disaster-afflicted areas and for the restoration of lives of affected people
- Measures to be taken in areas closely connected with disaster-afflicted areas;
- Measures for nationwide disaster prevention and reduction.

BUDGET SCALE (estimation, national and local governments)

- ¥ 23 trillion in the next 10 years (¥ 19 trillion in the first 5 years)

SUPPORT FOR RECONSTRUCTION

- Create "system of Special Zone for Reconstruction"
- Establish "easy-to-use" grant for implementation of reconstruction plans formulated by local governments
- Work towards reconstruction with the vitality of private sector

POLICIES AND MEASURES

Building Disaster Resilient Regions

- Build regions which respond to challenges of aging society and population decline and mobilize measures on the concept of "disaster reduction"
- Realize swift reorganization of land use

Revival of Local Economic Activities

- Mobilize public and private funds for affected business enterprises, reduce corporate effective tax rate
- Assure quick recovery of logistic infrastructure, promote the use of renewable energy and improve energy efficiency
- Promote foreign investment to Japan and acceptance of foreign nationals with skill and knowledge.

Nation-building incorporating lessons from the Earthquake

- Promote international cooperation to share lessons learnt as global knowledge asset
- Verify measures to be taken in case of future earthquakes and strengthen response capacity to disasters
- Conduct in-depth study on the Great Earthquake including international joint study to contribute to disaster prevention

Reconstruction from Nuclear Accident

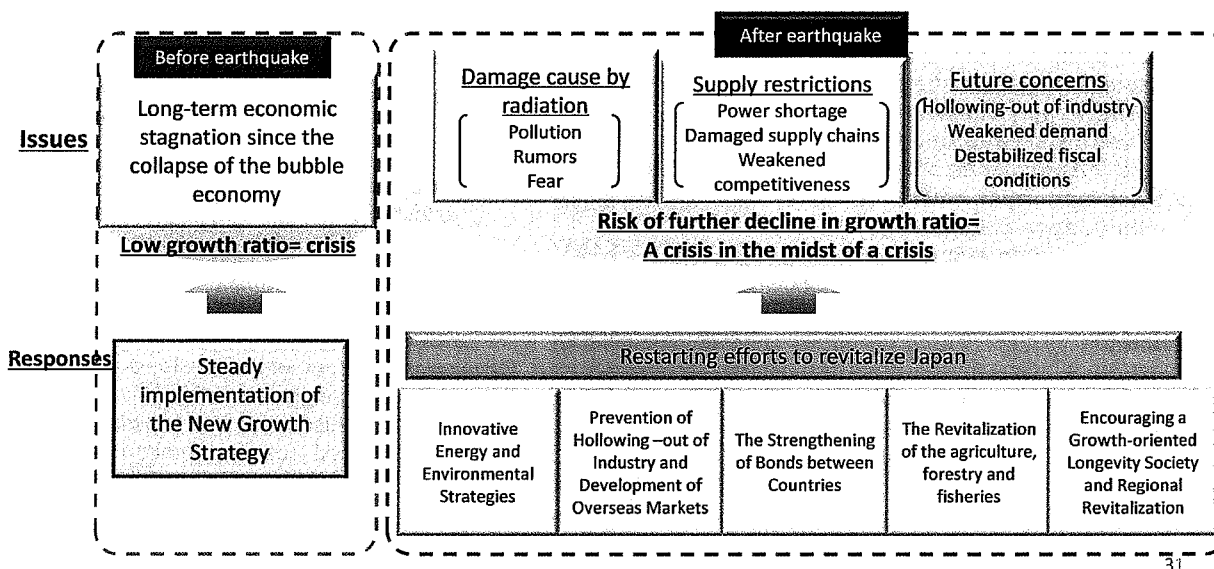
- Implement emergency, recovery and reconstruction measures and solve the nuclear accident as soon as possible.
- Monitor and provide information on radiation dose and develop system to assist inspection to assure food safety.

Interim Report on Strategies to Revitalize Japan (August 5, 2011)

1. Necessity of revitalizing Japan

The Great East Japan Earthquake was a “crisis in the midst of a crisis.” Even before the earthquake, Japan had been facing a crisis, namely, the stagnation of the economy and a societal impasse.

The nation must restart efforts to revitalize Japan in order to support the reconstruction of east Japan and address issues that already existed before the earthquake.



2. Outline of Strategies for Revitalizing Japan (Interim discussion points compiled by the Council on the Realization of the New Growth Strategy)

To review discussions for the realization of the New Growth Strategy that took place after the earthquake and to present policies of strategies for new growth in order to overcome issues facing the Japanese economy.

To list items to be discussed in a prioritized manner after autumn of 2011, with an aim to formulate Strategies to Revitalize Japan by the end of the year.

I. Basic Policies for Economic and Fiscal Management and the Macroeconomic Outlook

It is possible to achieve in a period between FY2011 and FY2020 average growth ratios of approximately 3% (nominal) and 2% (real). The Government shall take firm actions as necessary for the exchange market.

II. Policies of Strategies to Revitalize Japan

1. Innovative Strategy for Energy and the Environment

- The Government shall (a) reform demand structures; (b) diversify supply methods; (c) reform electricity systems supporting these structures and methods; and (d) take thorough safety measures and use the nuclear power stations where safety has been confirmed in order to stabilize the energy supply and demand situation immediately. Planned power outages and restrictions on the use of electricity shall be avoided. The risks of a power shortage of almost 10% next summer and of electricity costs rising by approximately 20% on an annual basis shall be minimized. Measures shall be materialized in autumn of 2011 by mobilizing each and every policy including the third supplementary budget for FY2011 and reforms of regulations and systems.

- Mid- to long-term strategies shall be materialized based on the Interim Compilation of Discussion Points for the Formulation of Innovative Strategy for Energy and the Environment. The Government shall review the existing Basic Energy Plan from scratch, draw up a scenario for reducing dependence on nuclear energy, and reinforce and accelerate the Green Innovation strategy.

2. Prevention of Hollowing-out of Industry and Development of Overseas Markets

- The Government shall clear away concern caused by electricity restrictions and the nuclear station incident, thereby seeking to restore and reconstruct supply chains and the "Japan brand."
- Measures to be taken to make a shift towards new structures of industries and markets include the strengthening of competitiveness of business locations through steps such as a 5% reduction in the effective corporate tax rate; the fostering of world-class talent; efforts to build infrastructure abroad; support for small- and medium-sized enterprises' expansion to overseas markets; and the reinforcement of the functions of the financial, capital markets.

3. The Strengthening of Bonds between Countries

- The Government shall reinforce efforts to promptly start Japan-EU EPA negotiations and to complete within 2011 a joint study with China and the ROK on a Japan-China- ROK trilateral FTA to launch negotiations in 2012. Efforts on Japan-Australia EPA negotiations as well as Japan-ROK EPA negotiations shall also be strengthened.
- Taking the point that the TPP is a matter affecting the reconstruction of agriculture in the afflicted region – as well as other points such as the status of progress in international negotiations and concern over the hollowing-out of industry – into account, the Government will discuss the matter thoroughly. The timing of a decision on whether to join negotiations for the TPP Agreement will be considered from an overall perspective and decided as early as possible.

4. Revitalization of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries

- The Government shall work in a concentrated manner over five years to enhance the competitiveness and soundness of Japan's agriculture, forestry and fisheries and to promote regional economies, based on an interim proposal by the Council to Promote the Revitalization of Food, Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries.
- In order to make compatible high-level economic partnerships and the revitalization of agriculture, forestry, and fisheries, it is necessary to resolve issues specified in the interim proposal and secure the public's understanding as well as stable financial resources in addition. Considerations shall thus be made in a concrete manner on issues such as changes of the bearers of burdens from consumers to taxpayers, reform of direct payment schemes, and a distribution mechanisms for benefits accrued from opening up the country.

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5. Encouraging a Growth-oriented Longevity Society and Regional Revitalization

The Government shall:

- seek to realize an all-participatory society securing decent work;
- promote medical innovation by putting innovative pharmaceutical products and medical equipments in use and prioritizing injection methods for policy resources;
- establish a one-stop support system, review regional revitalization systems, vitalize small- and medium-sized enterprises, and promote the building of disaster-resilient regions and nation.

III. Revision of New Growth Strategy

The objectives and schedules shall in principle be adhered to, with some revisions made in light of matters such as the impact of the earthquake.

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Decision of the Energy and Environment Council (July 29, 2010)

- The Council chaired by Mr. Koichiro Gemba, Minister for National Policy, decided to “Reduce dependence on nuclear power generation”.
- The Council released two reports, “Measures to stabilize energy supply and demand” and “Interim compilation of discussion points towards the creation of innovative energy and environmental strategies.”

1. Measures to stabilize energy demand and supply

(1) Power shortage at the peak hour and rising electric power cost

- ① Possibility of about 10% power shortage at the peak hour in summer next year
- ② Risk of about 20% increase of electric power cost

(2) Measures

① Peak cut measures

- Expanding introduction of energy saving products such as LED lights
- Promotion of energy saving investment
- Hourly fee menu using smart meter
- Expanding introduction of solar cells and batteries and etc.

② Cost decreasing measures

- Expansion of renewable energy through the introduction of feed-in tariff
- Improvement of environment to facilitate various actors to enter
- Improvement of electric wholesale market
- Cost reduction through procurement reform of electric power companies

③ Nuclear safety measures including re-operating nuclear power plants

- Verification of the accident
- Ensuring high standard safety
- Re-operating nuclear power plants on the above mentioned conditions

(3) Review

Materialization of work schedule and list of regulatory reform by autumn

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2. Interim compilation of discussion points towards the creation of innovative energy and environmental strategies

(1) Four energy challenges after the Great East Japan Earthquake

- ① Construction of strategies from zero base
- ② Verification without exception
- ③ Construction of energy market where invention and competition of various actors are encouraged
- ④ Construction of strategies from various points of view

(2) Strategies basic philosophy

① The realization of new best-mix of energy resources

- Drawing up scenario for “Reducing dependence on nuclear power generation”
- Drafting clear and strategic work schedule
- Thorough verification of nuclear policy

② The creation of new energy system

- Realization of dispersed energy system
- International contribution as a problem-solving advanced country
- Short-, mid- and long-term approach from various points of view

③ The formation of national consensus

- Overcoming the confrontation between the opposition to nuclear power generation and its promotion
- Verification of objective data
- Dialogue with wide range of national people

(3) Discussion points of six important issues (short-, mid-, and long-term)

- ① Energy saving: energy management focusing on demanders
- ② Renewable energy: technological innovation and market expansion
- ③ Resources and fuel: efficient uses
- ④ Nuclear energy: reducing dependence, verification without exception
- ⑤ Electric power system: new dispersed electric power system
- ⑥ Energy and environment industry

(4) Schedule

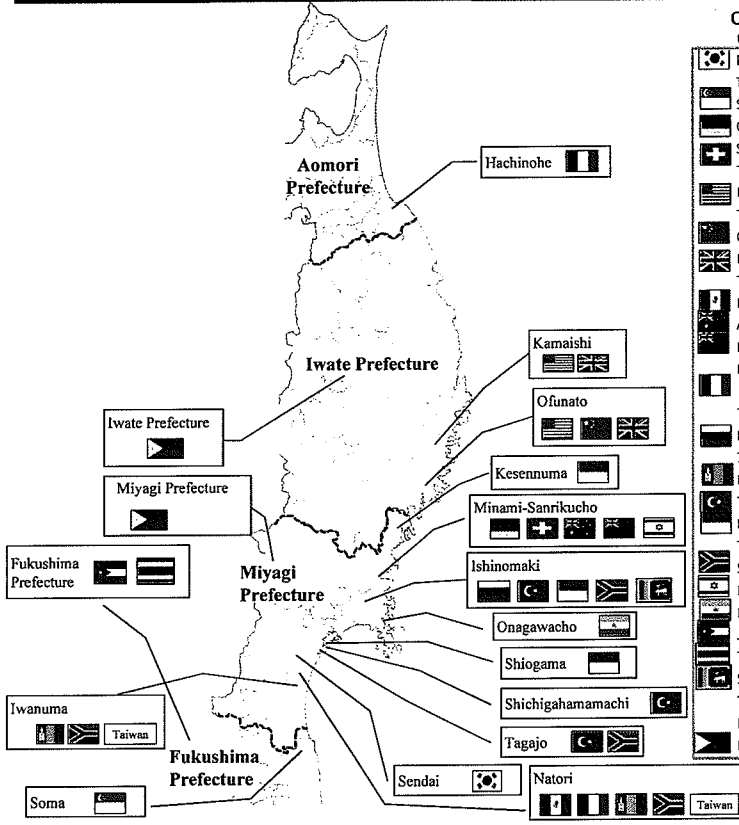
The end of 2011 : Basic principles of innovative energy and environmental strategies

Next year : innovative energy and environmental strategies

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Source: National Policy Unit, Cabinet Secretariat

Map of sites where rescue teams from foreign countries, regions, and international organizations are operating (3rd August)



Outline of Operations of Rescue Teams from Foreign Countries, Regions and International Organizations

	Republic of Korea (14th - 23rd March)
	Team of 107 rescue members, 2 rescue dogs
	Singapore (13th - 15th March) Team of 5 rescue members, 5 rescue dogs
	Germany (14th - 15th March) Team of 41 rescue members, 3 rescue dogs
	Switzerland (14th - 16th March)
	Team of 27 rescue members, 9 rescue dogs
	U.S. (15th - 19th March)
	Team of 144 rescue members (including 12 rescue dogs)
	China (14th - 20th March) Team of 15 rescue members
	U.K. (15th - 17th March)
	Team of 77 rescue members (including 8 reporters), 2 rescue dogs
	Mexico (15th - 17th March) Team of 12 rescue members, 6 rescue dogs
	Australia (16th - 19th March) Team of 75 rescue members, 2 rescue dogs
	New Zealand (16th - 18th March) Team of 52 rescue workers
	France (16th - 23rd March)
	Team of 134 rescue members (including 11 Monacans)
	Taiwan (16th - 18th March) Team of 28 rescue members
	Russia (16th - 18th March)
	75 rescue members in Team 1, 80 rescue members in Team 2
	Mongolia (17th - 19th March) Team of 12 rescue members
	Turkey (20th March - 8th April) Team of 32 rescue members
	Indonesia (19th - 23rd March)
	Team of 11 rescue members, 4 members (official and medical staff)
	South Africa (19th - 25th March) Team of 45 rescue members
	Israel (29th March - 10th April) Team of 53 medical staff
	India (29th March - 6th April) Team of 46 relief members
	Jordan (25th April - 12th May) Team of 4 medical staff
	Thailand (8th May - 3rd June) Two teams of 2 medical staff
	Sri Lanka (12th May - 1st June)
	Team of 15 recovery assistance staff (Staff of the Ministry of Disaster Management and Human Rights)
	Philippines (28th June - 11th July) Team of 3 medical staff

Source: Ministry of Foreign Affairs



首相官邸

Government Actions to Ensure the Safety of Beef and Other Food

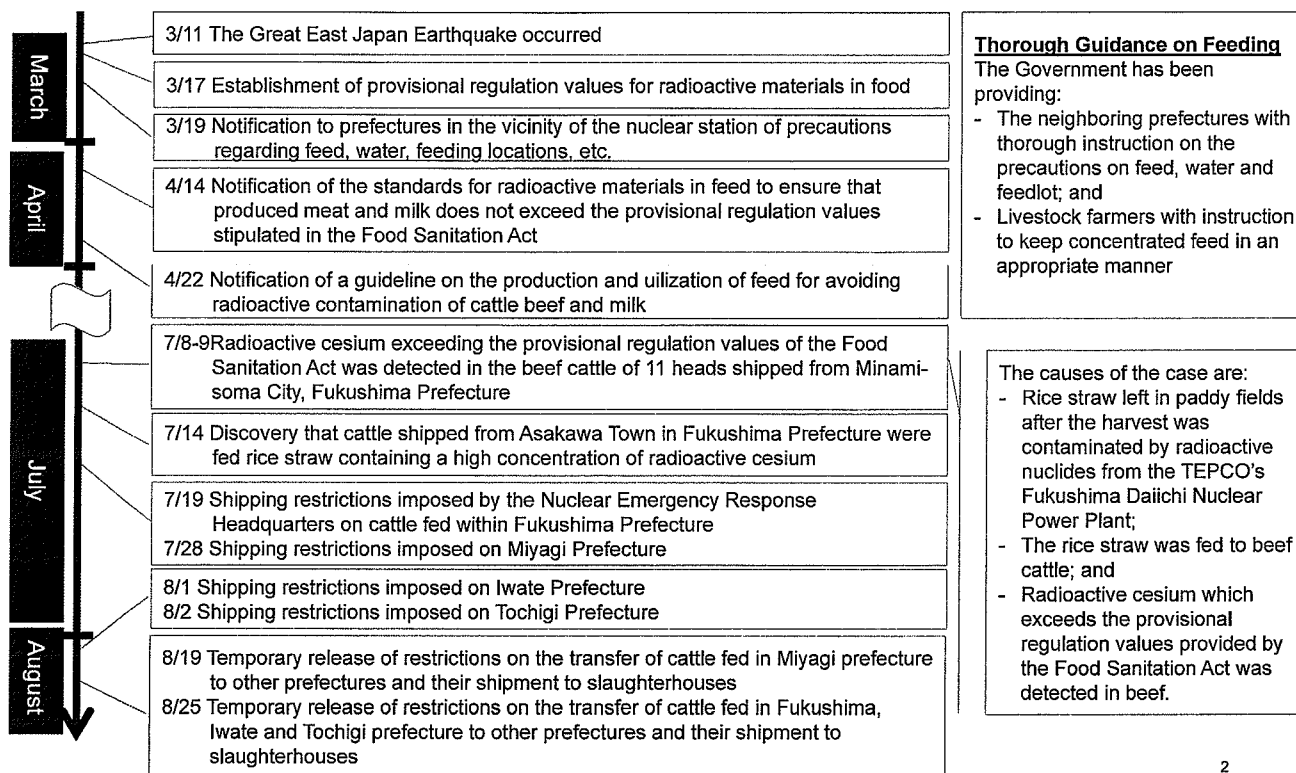
August 29, 2011

The Government of Japan

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 - 2. Safety of Beef
 - (1) The Establishment of Regulatory Framework for Food Safety
 - (2) Examples of Factors Affecting the Quantity of Radioactive Materials contained Beef
 - 3. Shipping Restrictions and Surveys on Distribution Channels
 - 4. Temporary Release of Restrictions on the Transfer of Cattle Fed in Fukushima, Miyagi, Iwate and Tochigi Prefecture to Locations in Other Prefectures and Their Shipment to Slaughterhouses
 - (1) Shipping and Examination Policy of Fukushima, Miyagi, Iwate and Tochigi
 - (2) Shipment to Slaughterhouses and guidance to farms giving feed cattle
 - (3) Shipping Plan and Management at shipment destination in each
 - (4) Measures to thoroughly implement appropriate feeding management systems
 - 5. Initiatives to Restore Trust in Japanese Beef
 - (1) Support to Restore Trust in Japanese Beef
 - (2) Measures to Support Livestock Farms
 - (3) Emergency Supply Support for Rice Straw, etc.
 - 6. Pork, Chicken, and Dairy Products
 - 7. Technical Details
 - (1) Surveillance of Distribution and Announcement of Individual Identification Numbers
 - (2) Method of Screening for Radioactive Cesium in Beef
- II. Radioactive Substances Inspection Scheme for Rice

1. Overview and Background



2

2. Safety of Beef Cattle

(1) The Establishment of Regulatory Framework for Food Safety

Major regulation values / standards

- In 1984 the International Commission on Radiological Protection (ICRP) set the guidelines for the maximum radiation exposure that a person should receive from all sources at 50mSV/year. ICRP set 5mSV/year as the maximum exposure from all sources. Japan's maximum levels for the safety of the food supply are based on the ICRP values. The Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare (MHLW) established the provisional regulation for exposure to radio active cesium in food products as 500 Bq/kg. Examples of the similar values from other countries are 1,000 Bq/kg in Singapore and Hong Kong; 1,200 Bq/kg in the U.S.A.; 370 Bq/kg in the Republic of Korea and Taiwan.

Effect of eating 1kg of beef contaminated radioactive cesium

- Context: Remembering that 5mSv/year is the GOJ maximum figure for total radiation exposure, the following equation provides an estimation of the impact on the human body of consuming a kilogram of beef containing 500 Bq (the regulatory maximum) of radioactive cesium (assuming Cesium 134 and 137 are equally mixed):
- $250 \times 1.3 \times 10^{-5} + 250 \times 1.9 \times 10^{-5} = 0.008 \text{ mSv}$
- Using the same equation, but replacing the level of radiological contamination with the worst case identified in Japanese beef the impact is calculated as:
- $2,175 \times 1.3 \times 10^{-5} + 2,175 \times 1.9 \times 10^{-5} = 0.07 \text{ mSv}$
- These levels can be compared with the additional radiation exposure associated with a one-way flight from Tokyo to New York, approximately 0.1 mSv.
- Even if food that exceeds the provisional regulation values is consumed on a temporary basis, it does not present real concerns regarding negative effects on human health. However, the GOJ food safety management system is designed to ensure that such consumption does not take place.

3

(2) Examples of Factors Affecting the Quantity of Radioactive Materials contained Beef

Examples of factors

- Feed (the concentration of radioactive materials, quantity provided and period of time)
- Water (as with feed)
- Feeding locations (outdoors or indoors), etc.

Biological half-life

- Even if radioactive materials are taken in the bodies of the cattle, they are gradually expelled, and their concentration falls through appropriate feeding of uncontaminated feed (in the case of radioactive cesium, the concentration level in the beef cattle falls by half in approximately 60 days)

4

3. Shipping Restrictions and Surveys on Distribution Channels

As a result of finding beef in commercial distribution with radioactive cesium exceeding the provisional regulation values, and on discovering that contaminated rice straw feed was the source of the problem, the following steps have been taken under the Act on Special Measure Concerning Nuclear Energy Preparations:

1. All beef from the prefectures of Fukushima, Miyagi, Iwate and Tochigi has been restricted from entering commercial channels until beef animals and products are proven not to exceed the provisional regulation values. The following measures will have to be followed:
 - a. In Planned Evacuation Zones, Emergency Evacuation Preparation Zones and other specifically designated areas, all cattle will be subject to examination and only those cattle that show levels below the 500 Bq/kg regulation level will be allowed to be marketed.
 - b. In other areas of Fukushima prefecture an examination of all farms will be carried out and samples drawn from every farm. Only those farms that show levels significantly below the regulation value will be approved for entering commerce. Cattle will continue to be subject to regular examinations.
 - c. In Miyagi, Iwate, Tochigi Prefectures all cattle on farms that have had problems with feed management will be examined, and only those radioactive cesium values within the provisional regulation value will be approved for marketing. All other cattle farms in these prefectures will have their farms sampled and tested, and if they show levels below the regulation values, marketing will be approved. These farms will be subject to regular examination hence.
 - d. Other prefectures in Japan have voluntarily decided to institute similar testing regimes for the beef produced in their areas.
2. For technical details on testing of beef and herd control see 8. of this presentation

5

4. Temporary Release of Restrictions on the Transfer of Cattle Fed in Fukushima, Miyagi, Iwate and Tochigi Prefecture to Locations in Other Prefectures and Their Shipment to Slaughterhouses

Temporary Release of Restrictions on the Transfer of Cattle Fed in Miyagi Prefecture to Locations in Other Prefectures and Their Shipment to Slaughterhouses (Miyagi (Aug 19), Fukushima, Iwate, Tochigi (Aug 25))

These measures based on establishment of safety management systems (appropriate cattle feeding management systems and blanket examinations) and ensuring proper shipment management :

- ❑ Each prefecture will responsibly manage measures to thoroughly implement appropriate feeding management systems and ensure that contaminated rice straw is no longer used and is isolated.
- ❑ Cattle farms that fed contaminated rice straw or cattle farms that are not conducting on-site inspections of contaminated rice straw etc., will be subject to blanket examinations.
- ❑ Cattle farms other than those subject to the blanket examinations must test at least one of the cows included in the first shipment.

- Only safe beef is being shipped, based on the current system we have implemented.
- We are doing everything we can to track down and reclaim all beef that is potentially contaminated and that has already been shipped using traceability.

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4. (1) Shipping and Examination Policy of Fukushima, Miyagi, Iwate and Tochigi

	Miyagi, Iwate, Tochigi	Fukushima
Farms subject to blanket examinations	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Cattle farms for which proper feeding management was not confirmed. 2. Cattle farms where examination results exceed provisional regulation values. 3. Cattle farms that are not conducting on-site inspections of rice straw contaminated with radioactive cesium. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Cattle farms located in Planned Evacuation Zones and Emergency Evacuation Preparation Zones. 2. Cattle farms for which proper feeding management was not confirmed 3. Cattle farms where examination results exceed provisional regulation values
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Excluding the case described in 2. below, all cattle shall be shipped to Sendai Central Wholesale Meat Market or Miyagi Meat Market Co., Ltd. where all cattle will be examined. 2. The shipment of cattle to slaughterhouses outside of Miyagi Prefecture will be permitted in the case that another local government conducts an examination on all cattle, or in the case that the cooperation of another local government is acquired in sampling the cattle before Miyagi Prefecture examines all of the cattle. 	
Farms subject to comprehensive farm examinations	Cattle farms not subject to blanket examinations	
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Cattle of farms subject to comprehensive farm examinations shall be shipped to Sendai Central Wholesale Meat Market or Miyagi Meat Market Co., Ltd. where an examination will be conducted for each farm.* 2. Cattle used at farms that have completed comprehensive farm examinations are permitted for shipment to slaughterhouses. Blanket examinations shall be conducted in the following two cases: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) Cattle has eaten contaminated rice straw and been transferred to a farm that has completed a comprehensive farm examination. (2) Cattle that was transferred from within the 20-kilometer range of Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Station following the accident 3. In order to restore credibility in Miyagi beef, including "Sendai beef," Miyagi Prefecture shall cooperate in having examinations carried out for radioactive materials on all cattle fed at farms that have completed comprehensive farm examinations, in addition to examinations conducted for each farm. *An examination for radioactive materials carried out on one or more cattle designated by Miyagi Prefecture for each farm. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Cattle of farms subject to comprehensive farm examinations shall be shipped to Fukushima Meat Distribution Center where an examination will be conducted for each farm.* 2. Cattle used at farms that have completed comprehensive farm examinations are permitted for shipment to slaughterhouses. Blanket examinations shall be conducted in the following two cases: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) Cattle has eaten contaminated rice straw and been transferred to a farm that has completed a comprehensive farm examination. (2) Cattle that was transferred from within the 20-kilometer range of Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Station following the accident (3) Cattle that was transferred from Planned Evacuation Zones and Emergency Evacuation Preparation Zones to outside of these zones, and for which proper feeding management was not confirmed.

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4 (2) Shipment to Slaughterhouses and guidance to farms giving feed cattle

	Miyagi, Iwate, Tochigi	Fukushima
Shipment to slaughterhouses in other prefectures	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Miyagi Prefecture shall provide prior notification to local governments outside of Miyagi Prefecture with jurisdiction over slaughterhouses concerning the farm cattle were fed at, the planned shipment date, the slaughterhouse where cattle are to be shipped, the number of cattle to be shipped, and the individual identification numbers of cattle to be shipped. The local governments shall be requested to notify Miyagi Prefecture in the event cattle are shipped to slaughterhouses for which prior notification was not received. 	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In the event that cattle that were fed at farms subject to blanket examinations are found are included, Miyagi Prefecture will identify the individual identification number of the cattle in question, and request the local government to cooperate in carrying out an examination for radioactive substances on all of these cattle, ensuring proper management at the slaughterhouse, and notifying the results of the examination to Miyagi Prefecture. Miyagi Prefecture will hold prior discussions with the local government that has jurisdiction over the slaughterhouse in a comprehensive manner regarding the details of such requests. 	
Guidance to farms giving feed to cattle	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strengthening of guidance systems <ul style="list-style-type: none"> In cooperation with related institutions, etc., Miyagi Prefecture will implement regular on-site examinations of farms giving feed to cattle, and provide them with guidance to ensure that they are continuing to implement appropriate feeding management Thorough provision of information and the sharing of information about shipping and examination systems <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The "Miyagi Prefecture Beef Cattle Shipping Plan Adjustment Council" will be established to carry out the thorough provision of information about the new shipping and examination systems, and provide guidance to ensure that proper examination systems are being developed and implemented. This Council will aim to share and publicize all forms of information provided by the national government, etc. Provision of information <ul style="list-style-type: none"> In cooperation with related institutions, etc., Miyagi Prefecture will provide timely and accurate information such as examination results to consumers and distributors, and will publicize the fact that there is no problem with the beef available on the market in terms of the Food Sanitation Act 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strengthening of guidance systems <ul style="list-style-type: none"> In cooperation with related institutions, etc., Fukushima Prefecture will implement regular on-site examinations of farms giving feed to cattle, and provide them with guidance to ensure that they are continuing to implement appropriate feeding management. Focused guidance will be provided, especially to Planned Evacuation Zones and Emergency Evacuation Preparation Zones. Thorough provision of information about shipping and examination systems <ul style="list-style-type: none"> In cooperation with related institutions and groups, etc., Fukushima Prefecture will carry out the thorough provision of information about the new shipping and examination systems, and provide guidance to ensure that proper examination systems are being developed and implemented for cattle farmers. Sharing of information <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fukushima Prefecture will establish a liaison council with related institutions, etc. and ensure the thorough sharing of information as well as provision of information and guidance to livestock farms. Also, it will provide timely and accurate information such as examination results to consumers and distributors, and will publicize the fact that there is no problem with the beef available on the market in terms of the Food Sanitation Act.

4. (3) Shipping Plan and Management at shipment destination in each

Management, etc. at shipment destination in each prefecture	Shipping plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Miyagi Prefecture is creating a ledger including the following information for each farmer giving feed to cattle, and updates it every time there is a change <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (1) Whether it is a farm subject to blanket examination, a farm subject to comprehensive farm examination, or a farm that has completed comprehensive farm examination. (2) Whether the farm has fed (i) cattle that ate contaminated rice straw and were transferred to farms that have completed comprehensive farm examinations, and /or (ii) cattle that were transferred from within the 20-kilometer range of Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Station after the accident – this information includes the cattle's individual identification numbers. In order to ensure that examinations of radioactive materials are carried out smoothly, for each planned shipping date, the ledger stipulates the slaughter house from which the cattle are shipped, the farms giving feed to cattle being shipped, the cattle shipped, the place of examination, etc. The "Miyagi Prefecture Beef Cattle Shipping Plan Adjustment Council" (comprised of Miyagi Prefecture and related organizations, etc.) finalize draft shipping plans (created by producers' organizations, etc.) A feasible plan is stipulated, taking into account the slaughtering capacity of the Sendai Central Wholesale Meat Market and Miyagi Meat Market Co., Ltd., the examination capability of the examination institutions that Miyagi Prefecture has asked to perform surveys of radioactive materials, and the status of acceptance of cattle that have been shipped to slaughterhouses outside Miyagi Prefecture 	
		Confirmation of Accepted Cattle	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> For each head of cattle accepted, the Sendai Central Wholesale Meat Market and Miyagi Meat Market Co., Ltd., will confirm sources of the shipped cattle, check the shipping plan, and report the findings to Miyagi Prefecture.
		Storage and Management of Carcass and Internal Organs, etc.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Measures for ensuring distinct grouping between the cattle subject to be tested for radioactive materials and others (management according to the order of slaughtering and marking signs on the carcass, etc.) Test samples will be collected by people designated by slaughterhouse staff or Miyagi Prefecture under the supervision and guidance of Sendai City officials at the Sendai Central Wholesale Meat Market and Miyagi Prefecture officials at Miyagi Meat Market Co., Ltd. Until test results are ready, cattle carcasses and internal organs, etc., provided for testing will be stored and managed at the Sendai Central Wholesale Meat Market and Miyagi Meat Market Co., Ltd., and other locations designated by Miyagi Prefecture that assure safe management. If test results show radiation levels above the provisional regulation values, Sendai City officials, Miyagi Prefecture officials and those designated by Miyagi Prefecture will verify the test findings with the actual cattle based on group identification numbers, etc., and ensure that the cattle are not distributed.
	Issuance of Test Results Notifications	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> "Notification of Radiation Test Results for Beef": Issued for beef taken from cattle which had radiation readings below the provisional regulation values Notification which identifies that a farm has tested all of its cattle* <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Notification issued by Miyagi Prefecture with an expiration date. For (1) farms that cultivate cattle which had eaten contaminated rice straw before being shipped to the farm and which have tested all of their cattle and (2) farms which raise cattle shipped from within the 20-km radius zone of the Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Station following the nuclear incident and which have tested all of their cattle, the notification notes that the farms raise cattle and indicates the group identification numbers of the cattle. Farms that have tested all of their cattle can make shipments by enclosing a copy of the said notification. * Of the farms that must have all of their cattle tested, this section refers to those for which the tests conducted for each farm yielded radioactive cesium readings below 50Bq/kg. Furthermore, no more than three months may have passed since the date the test findings were obtained. 	

4. (4) Measures to thoroughly implement appropriate feeding management systems

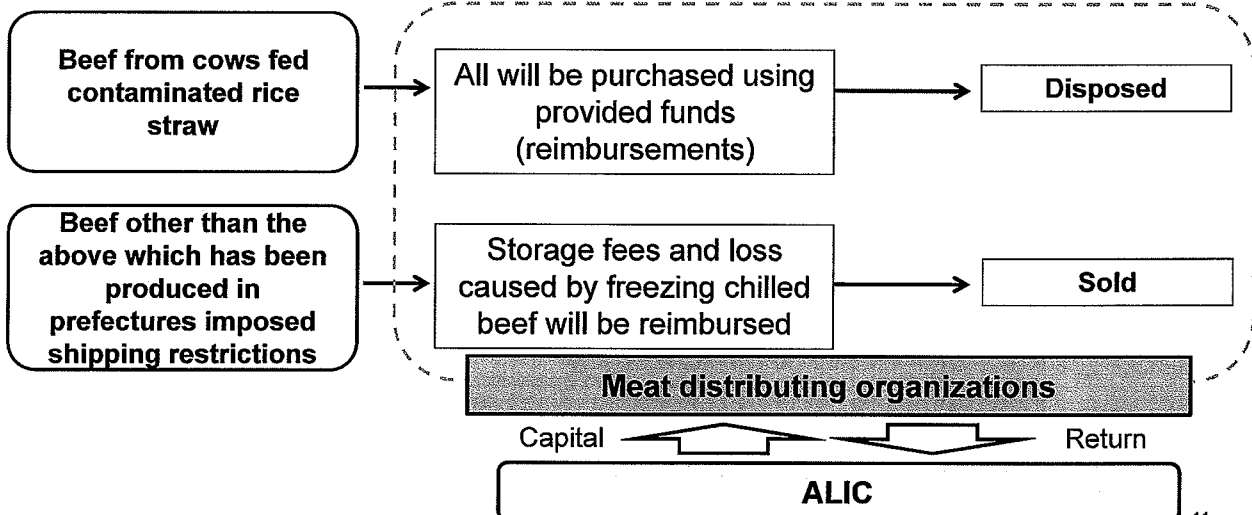
	Miyagi, Iwate, Tochigi	Fukushima
Measures to thoroughly implement appropriate feeding management systems	<p>➤ Disposal, etc. of contaminated rice straw: Miyagi Prefecture will take responsibility for managing the implementation of measures (1) to (4)</p> <p>(1) In order to determine the appropriate treatment method at the time of disposal, examinations of radioactive materials will be implemented while cooperating and consulting with the concerned municipalities, etc., regarding storage location and the disposal method</p> <p>(2) Regarding contaminated rice straw that is in excess of the provisional regulation values, a "Contaminated Rice Straw Proper Management Checklist" will be created (recording the remaining amount, the results of the measurement of the volume of radioactivity, the storage location, etc., for each farm), and verification will be made on whether appropriate storage is regularly implemented throughout the period leading up to disposal</p> <p>(3) In places distant from livestock barns and human residences, colored sprays, etc., will be applied to contaminated rice straw, and the straw shall be covered using blue plastic sheet, etc.</p> <p>(4) Contaminated rice straw shall be disposed of as quickly as possible, and after it is verified that the straw has been disposed of, a record shall be made of this fact in the Contaminated Rice Straw Proper Management Checklist</p> <p>➤ Strengthening of feeding management guidance systems: Regular interviews and on-site surveys of farms giving feed to cattle shall be implemented</p> <p>➤ Providing information to livestock farmers: Miyagi Prefecture shall distribute a feeding management manual regarding the rapid changes to feeding management arising from shipping restrictions, etc.</p> <p>➤ Strengthening of guidance for rice straw distributors, etc.: The implementation of interviews and on-site surveys shall be continued</p>	<p>➤ Disposal, etc. of contaminated rice straw: Miyagi Prefecture will take responsibility for managing the implementation of measures (1) to (3)</p> <p>(1) Regarding contaminated rice straw that is in excess of the provisional regulation values, a "Contaminated Rice Straw Proper Management Checklist" will be created (recording the remaining amount, the results of the measurement of the volume of radioactivity, the storage location, etc., for each farm), and verification will be made on whether appropriate storage is regularly implemented throughout the period leading up to disposal</p> <p>(2) In places distant from livestock barns and human residences, colored sprays, etc., will be applied to contaminated rice straw, and the straw shall be covered using blue plastic sheet, etc.</p> <p>(3) Contaminated rice straw shall be disposed of as quickly as possible, and after it is verified that the straw has been disposed of, a record shall be made of this fact in the Contaminated Rice Straw Proper Management Checklist</p> <p>➤ Continuation of feed situation confirmation examinations*: Fukushima Prefecture will regularly conduct feed situation confirmation examinations, and thereby, confirm feeding management systems are appropriate. Pace: Farms subject to blanket examinations-each time shipment is made to slaughterhouses; Farms subject to comprehensive farm examinations-time of first shipment and every 3 months thereafter</p> <p>* Inquiries into feeding situation and feed management, etc.; radiation measurements of feed, water, cattle bedding materials, etc.; if the above contain radiation amounts exceeding a certain value, samples will be taken and tested for radioactive substances</p> <p>➤ Guidance based on examination findings:</p> <p>1) For farms deemed to have appropriate feeding management, a confirmation document to this effect will be issued which approves shipments to slaughterhouses within three months from the examination date.</p> <p>2) For farms confirmed to have inappropriate feeding management, management guidance will be provided to rectify the situation and shipments to slaughterhouses will not be approved until improvements in feeding management are confirmed.</p> <p>➤ Other</p> <p>1) Guidance for Fukushima Meat Distribution Center to ensure that cattle shipped from farms that have not submitted a copy of the feed situation confirmation examination is not slaughtered.</p> <p>2) Guidance for cattle farms to ensure the cleaning of the bodies of cattle. 10</p>

5. Initiatives to Restore Trust in Japanese Beef

(1) Support to Restore Trust in Japanese Beef

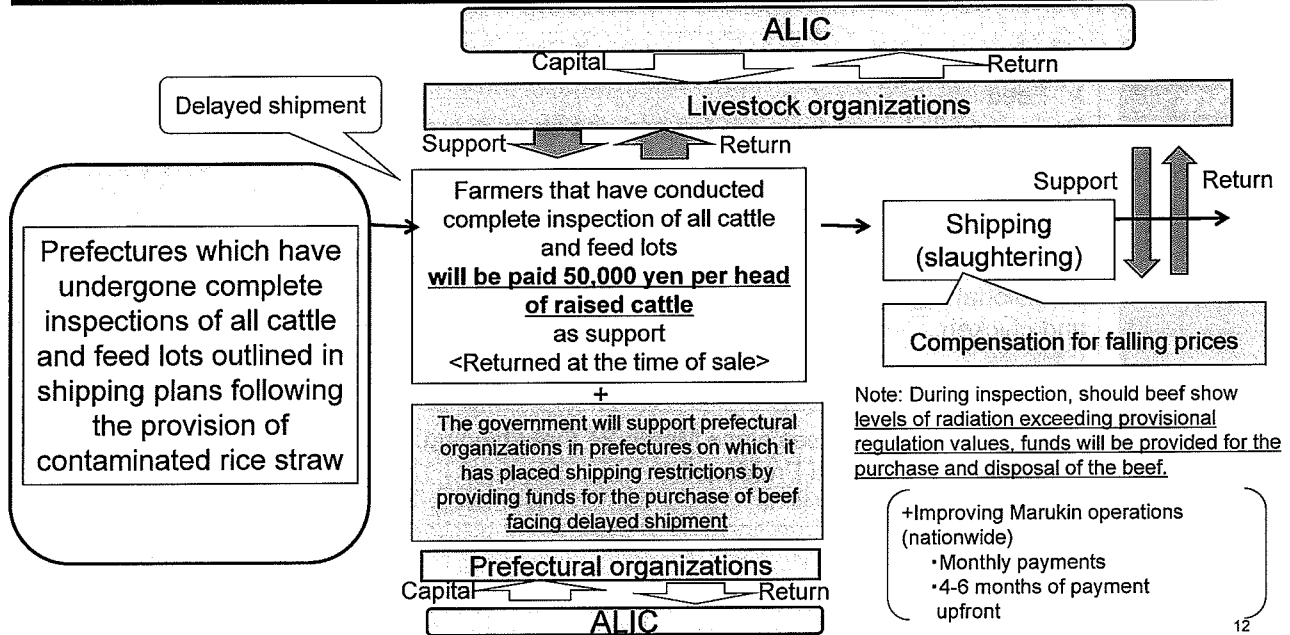
- In order to restore consumer confidence, meat distributing organizations will provide funds for the purchase of beef from cows that may have been fed rice straw with radiation levels exceeding provisional regulation values (as a reimbursement) and dispose of the beef.
- Also, the government will reimburse storage fees etc., for beef at distribution level produced in prefectures imposed shipping restrictions.
- Note: Returns will be paid at either the time of purchase or when compensation payments are made.

○ For already distributed beef



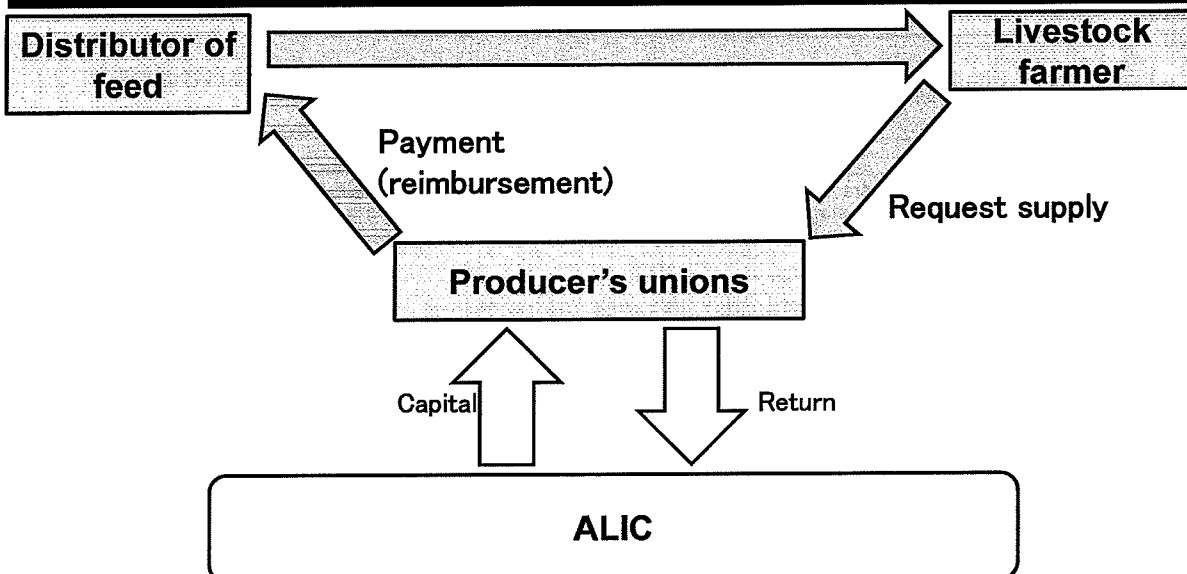
(2) Measures to Support Livestock Farms

- For livestock farms in prefectures where contaminated rice straw was fed to cattle and where complete inspections of all cattle and feed lots were carried out, livestock organizations will pay support of 50,000 yen per head of cattle.
 - Livestock organizations will also pay support to compensate for falling beef prices.
 - Within prefectures facing shipping restrictions, the Government will support prefectural organizations by providing funds for the purchase of beef facing delayed shipment.
- Note: Returns will be paid at either the time of purchase or when compensation payments are made.



(3) Emergency Supply Support for Rice Straw, etc.

- Producer's unions will supply replacement feed to those livestock farmers running low on rice straw and grass.



Rice straw (17 prefectures): Hokkaido, Aomori, Iwate, Miyagi, Akita, Yamagata, Fukushima, Ibaraki, Tochigi, Gunma, Saitama, Chiba, Shizuoka, Niigata, Gifu, Mie, Shimane
 Grass, etc. (9 prefectures): Iwate, Miyagi, Fukushima, Ibaraki, Tochigi, Gunma, Saitama, Chiba, Kanagawa

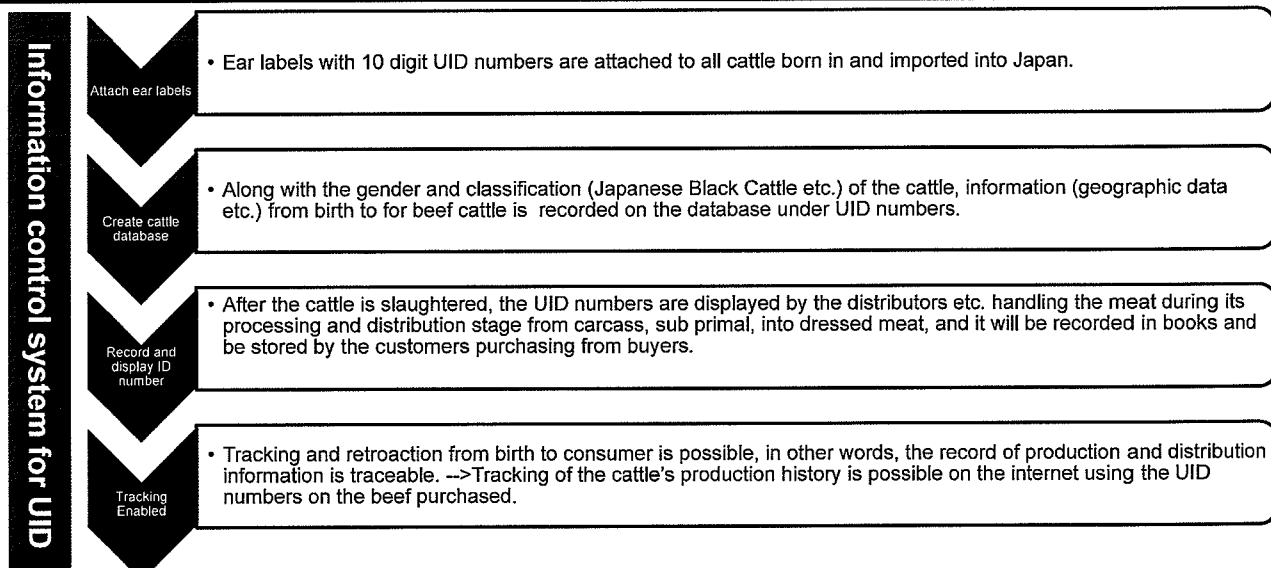
6. Pork, Chicken and Dairy Products

Pork Chicken	<p>➤ Differences in digestive organs Because the pigs and chickens have different digestive organs from cattle, they cannot digest rice straw and pastures. Rice straw has been the vector for problem below.</p>
	<p>➤ Feed Grains and its by-products are fed and rice straw is not fed to pigs and chickens. (Please refer to http://www.mhlw.go.jp/stf/shingi/2c48402k000000000000000000000000.pdf)</p>
	<p>➤ Test Results Until now, nothing has been found to contain radioactive cesium which exceeds the provisional regulation values stipulated in the Food Sanitation Act from tested pork and chicken. (Please refer to http://www.mhlw.go.jp/stf/shingi/2c48402k000000000000000000000000.pdf)</p>
Dairy Product	<p>There has been no cases since March 24 that shipping restrictions imposed on Fukushima and Ibaraki Prefecture (As of August 18. Please refer to http://www.mhlw.go.jp/stf/shingi/2c48402k000000000000000000000000.pdf)</p>

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8. Technical Details

(1) Surveillance of Distribution and Announcement of Individual Identification Numbers



- measures**
- MHLW has requested local municipalities concerned to review the distribution route and secure the samples of beef that may have been fed rice straw contaminated by radioactive substances which exceeds the provisional regulation values.
 - The government is taking actions to put testing system in place and to announce UID numbers.
 - The government has taken measures to immediately recall contaminated beef if it is found to contain radioactive substances which exceed the provisional regulation values through tests by the municipalities.

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(2) Method of Screening for Radioactive Cesium in Beef

Main Points	<p>The "Manual for Measuring Radioactivity of Foods in Case of Emergency (*)" stipulates a nuclide analysis technique involving gamma-ray spectrometry using a germanium semiconductor</p> <p>*Carry out monitoring in compliance with this manual using the index values published by the Nuclear Safety Commission as the provisional regulation values</p>
Nuclide analysis method	<p>Performance for efficiently examining a large number of specimens is limited</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➢ The number of instruments is limited ➢ The number of specimens thought to be necessary is relatively great
Method of screening	<p>Purpose and intent</p> <p>The purpose is to determine beef samples with reliably lower radioactive cesium concentrations than the provisional regulation values</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➢ Particular analytical instruments are not stipulated ➢ For samples for which the screening results do not reliably show a lower level of radioactive cesium than the provisional regulation values, finalize the examination results with the gamma-ray spectrometry using a germanium semiconductor stipulated in the emergency manual
	<p>Target</p> <p>Analysis target: radioactive cesium 134, 137 Target food: the meat from cattle</p>
	<p>Analytical method</p> <p>Background value: this is the value that can guarantee the following measured lower limit. The background value shall be the value when the same amount of water is put into the same container as the specimen. However, in the case that the shielding is sufficient the measured value in a blank state can also be used as the background</p> <p>Measured lower limit: is 50Bq/kg or less</p> <p>Trueness (adjusted): composed using the appropriate standard radiation source</p> <p>Screening level: less than half the regulation value. The upper limit of the 99% confidence interval of the measured value in the screening level is less than the measured value obtained with the regulation value level</p>

II . Radioactive Substances Inspection Scheme for Rice

No care needed in purchasing newly harvested rice

Safety is confirmed for the newly harvested rice produced this year and the rice is brought to the consumers after conducting radioactive substances inspection.

Radioactive substances inspection scheme for rice

Rice planting is restricted in areas with high concentration of radioactive cesium in the soil.

The planting restriction for rice has been implemented in April 2011, so that the radioactive cesium concentration of rice produced this year will remain below the provisional regulation values (500Bq/kg) provided by the Food Sanitation Act.

*Because the degree of the radioactive cesium transferring to brown rice from paddy soil is 0.1, rice planting is restricted in area with the cesium concentration in the soil is above 5,000Bq/kg

Two phases of inspection (before and after harvesting) will be conducted based on the results of soil surveys.

In cities and villages mainly in Tohoku and Kanto region, where the radioactive cesium concentration in soil or atmospheric radiation dosage level is high (above 1000Bq/kg or 0.1μSv/h), the following two phases of inspection shall be conducted.

- 1) Preliminary inspection (check the concentration level of radioactive substances before harvesting)
- 2) Main inspection (measure the concentration of radioactive substances after harvesting to decide whether shipment restriction is necessary)

All the rice produced in the area exceeding the regulation values of the radioactive cesium concentration will be disposed.

The rice produced in the area will be subject to shipment restriction and be disposed entirely if the radioactive cesium concentration in brown rice is found to be above the regulation values (500Bq/kg) from the inspection.

The rice sold in the market is safe

**EUROPEAN COMMISSION DECISION CONCERNING CERTAIN
PROTECTIVE MEASURES WITH REGARD TO CERTAIN
PRODUCTS ORIGINATING IN MADAGASCAR**

Communication from Madagascar

The following communication, received on 19 September 2011, is being circulated at the request of the delegation of Madagascar.

1. With effect from September 1997, Madagascar was made subject to a measure prohibiting the export of products of animal origin to the European Union. This sanction was imposed after a mission by the European Commission's Food and Veterinary Office in June 1997 revealed non-compliance with the European regulations in force.
2. Given the importance to the national economy of exports of products of animal origin, especially fishery and aquaculture products, the Government and the private sector, with the assistance of financial partners, deployed the necessary resources in order to satisfy the European requirements. At the beginning of 1998 this ban was lifted for fishery and aquaculture products originating in Madagascar.
3. Where livestock production for export is concerned, the Government's endeavours to date have not resulted in the lifting of the ban. This situation has severely hampered the development of stockbreeding in Madagascar.
4. With technical assistance from the World Trade Organization under the capacity-building programme for developing countries, in December 2007 Madagascar resumed the negotiation with the European Union with a view to obtaining an exemption to export honey to the European market. In February 2008 the European Union, through the Directorate General for Health and Consumers (DG SANCO), agreed to consider Madagascar's request in respect of three products - preserved snails, guano (organic fertilizer) and honey.
5. Thus, following official requests by Madagascar, exemptions were granted in 2008 for the import of preserved snails originating in Madagascar, and in 2010 for guano. With regard to honey, the residue monitoring plan was validated by DG SANCO in February 2011. Finally, on 1 July 2011 the European Parliament adopted Decision No. 2011/395/EU repealing Decision 2006/241/EC concerning certain protective measures with regard to certain products of animal origin, excluding fishery products, originating in Madagascar.
6. Access to the European market is now authorized for products of animal origin originating in Madagascar, provided that they comply with current European health regulation requirements.

ENTRY INTO FORCE OF CANADA'S AQUATIC ANIMAL HEALTH REGULATIONS

Communication from Canada

The following communication, received on 12 October 2011, is being circulated at the request of the Delegation of Canada.

1. The Government of Canada would like to inform Members of the upcoming entry into force of its regulatory amendments regarding aquatic animal health, which could impact imports from Canada's trading partners.
2. Canada notified the development, adoption and entry into force of these new requirements to the WTO on 6 January 2010 (G/SPS/N/CAN/415) and 18 January 2011 (G/SPS/N/CAN/415/Add.1).
3. On 22 December 2010, Canada's Health of Animals Regulations were amended to include aquatic animals. On 5 January 2011, aquatic animal diseases were added to Canada's Reportable Diseases Regulations. The purpose of these regulatory changes is to prevent the introduction into and spread within Canada of aquatic animal diseases.
4. These regulatory changes will affect the import of finfish, molluscs and crustaceans. Specifically, the regulations will control the import of species of aquatic animals that are susceptible to diseases regulated by Canada, including those listed by the OIE. Schedule III¹ of the Health of Animals Regulations provides lists of aquatic animals that will be subject to import controls. Canada formulated these lists in accordance with the standards of the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) outlined in the Aquatic Animal Health Code.
5. Effective 10 December 2011, importers of any of the aquatic animals (live or dead and including germplasm, carcasses and offal of those animals) listed in Schedule III of Canada's Health of Animals Regulations will require:
 - 1) an import permit issued by the Canadian Food Inspection Agency; and
 - 2) a zoosanitary certificate signed by the Competent Authority of the exporting country of origin of the animals.
6. Aquatic animals that are eviscerated or packaged, processed or ready-to-eat products will not require an import permit or a zoosanitary certificate.

¹ Schedule III of the *Health of Animals Regulations* can be found at "<http://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/regulations/C.R.C.%2C%20c.%20296/page-57.html#h-128>".

7. Trading partners exporting regulated aquatic animals to Canada will need to negotiate zoosanitary certificates with Canada by 10 December 2011. As the date of entry into force of the new requirements is fast approaching, Canada encourages implicated Members to contact the Canadian Food Inspection Agency in advance to minimize impact on trade flows. For more information, please contact the Canadian Mission in your territory or Dr. Joanne Constantine of the Canadian Food Inspection Agency at +1 (613) 773 7426 or joanne.constantine@inspection.gc.ca.

**USE OF ELECTRONIC SANITARY AND PHYTOSANITARY
CERTIFICATES IN WORLD TRADE**

Communication from Mexico

The following communication, received on 18 October 2011, is being circulated at the request of the delegation of Mexico.

1. Mexico has made significant progress in the implementation of trade facilitation measures similar to those proposed at WTO SPS Committee meetings. These measures concern, *inter alia*, the publication and availability of information on sanitary and phytosanitary measures and, more recently, the creation of the Single Foreign Trade Window. Such improvements will put Mexico at the forefront of trade efficiency, while ensuring compliance with international regulations.
2. On 14 January 2011, a Presidential Decree relating to the creation of the Mexican Electronic Foreign Trade Window was published in the Mexican Official Journal. This Decree stipulates that the foreign trade procedures of the National Agriculture and Food Health, Safety and Quality Service (SENASICA) of the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, Rural Development, Fisheries and Food (SAGARPA) are to be incorporated into this Electronic Foreign Trade Window as of 31 January 2012.
3. For the Electronic Single Window to have a major impact on SENASICA procedures, its connection with international systems has to be ensured through the electronic exchange of information relating to phytosanitary, animal health and aquaculture certification.
4. Mexico's Electronic Foreign Trade Window seeks to provide a single reception point for the information that is provided in advance by the various parties involved in foreign trade. In doing so, it will facilitate and control Mexican trade, provide a basis for the restructuring of the customs system processes, contribute to the paperless customs system and ensure the application of quality standards and best practices in the field. The development of this Window will involve the creation of a module for the electronic exchange of information between governments, which will be notified to Member countries in due course.
5. On the basis of the International Standards for Phytosanitary Measures (ISPMs) for issuing phytosanitary certificates, Mexico seeks to establish a reciprocal electronic scheme with Member countries that will ensure compliance with safety standards, promote a climate of trust and ensure fulfilment of the certification objectives of the International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC) and the objectives of the animal health certificates provided for in Section 5 of the OIE Terrestrial Animal Health Code.

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6. The need to establish certificates at global level has arisen due to an increase in the number of countries interested in electronic certification. Such certification is viewed as a means of facilitating import and export procedures between countries and ensuring their harmonization, providing that the parameters of reliability are maintained for both printed and electronic certificates.

7. In this respect, SENASICA has launched a review and is working to form links with Australia, New Zealand, Chile, Canada and the United States of America in order to establish technical, administrative and management protocols for the implementation of the electronic exchange of certificates concerning agriculture and food health, safety and quality for foreign trade purposes.

POSSIBLE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

8. Mexico is of the opinion that the Committee needs to discuss and put forward recommendations that will help Member countries and international bodies to harmonize electronic sanitary and phytosanitary certification procedures, with a view to ensuring that the guidelines followed are uniform and consistent with the basic objectives of the sanitary regulations established in the Agreement on the Application of Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures (SPS Agreement), in accordance with the following precepts:

- (a) International bodies (IPPC, OIE, Codex Alimentarius Commission) establish and issue guidelines, standards or rules for approving or harmonizing the electronic exchange of certificates and other sanitary and phytosanitary documents required for foreign trade purposes.
- (b) Member countries are called on to comply with the rules, guidelines, standards and recommendations issued by international bodies for designing, setting up and implementing electronic information and document exchange systems, pursuant to the provisions of Article 3 of the SPS Agreement.
- (c) Member countries are urged to promote bilateral and regional electronic exchange initiatives and to ensure harmonization with the international rules, guidelines and standards issued by the above-mentioned international bodies.

9. This communication is being submitted under Article 13 of the SPS Agreement, without prejudice to Mexico's rights and obligations under that Agreement.

HIGHLY PATHOGENIC AVIAN INFLUENZA SITUATION

Communication from the Republic of Korea

The following communication, dated 10 October 2011, is being circulated at the request of the Delegation of the Republic of Korea.

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1. The Ministry for Food, Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (MIFAFF) has been carrying out HPAI control and surveillance programmes in the country along with Animal Plant and Fisheries Quarantine and Inspection Agency (QIA). The purpose of this programme is to detect HPAI at an early stage and implement swift control measures in case of an outbreak.
 2. As a result of such programme, there has been no report of HPAI infection in the Republic of Korea for over two years since August 2008. However, following a confirmed HPAI infection in poultry on 29 December 2010, there have been reports of 53 HPAI cases in total until 16 May 2011.
 3. MIFAFF implemented a stamping-out policy without vaccination against HPAI to 6.47 million poultry in all infected and related poultry farms, and all farms were disinfected. Culling and disinfection on the last infected premises was completed on 23 May 2011. There has been no further outbreak of HPAI or evidence of HPAI infection through the nationwide surveillance programme.
 4. The Republic of Korea has met the requirements for HPAI free country established in Chapter 10.4 of the Terrestrial Animal Health Code (2011) of the World Organization for Animal Health (OIE).
 5. The Republic of Korea declared itself as a HPAI-free country as of 23 August 2011 and notified it to the OIE on 5 September 2011.
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36TH CAIRNS GROUP MINISTERIAL MEETING
Saskatoon, Canada
7-9 September 2011

Communication from Australia

The following communiqué from the 36th Ministerial Meeting of the Cairns Group held in Canada, is being circulated at the request of the Delegation of Australia.

CAIRNS GROUP COMMUNIQUÉ

We, the Ministers of the Cairns Group, have met in Saskatoon, on 8-9 September to discuss the international agriculture trade policy environment, to assess the ongoing WTO Doha Round agriculture negotiations and discuss other issues that impact on agricultural trade.

Global economic and agriculture trade outlook

We are meeting at a time when the global economic outlook remains uncertain. While trade has rebounded from the sharp drop experienced during the recent economic downturn, the slow growth prospect can become a source of pressure to introduce trade-protectionist measures. We must remain vigilant to resist such pressures and instead work to make trade an engine for development and economic prosperity.

The benefits of the multilateral rules-based trading system were evident during the global financial crisis. We strongly support the WTO's role in reviewing trade developments which has improved transparency in the multilateral trading system.

Globally agricultural commodity prices remain volatile, driven by various factors. These conditions create both risks and opportunities for farmers. Accessing the benefits brought about by higher prices depends largely on being able to trade successfully in an open, fair, market-oriented and predictable trading environment. Of course, as consumers as well as producers, farmers too are affected by high food price volatility. These demand and supply side pressures only serve to underline the need for continued efforts on agricultural trade policy reform.

The Doha Round Negotiations

Since we last met in Punta del Este in April 2010 it has become clear that we have not made sufficient progress to conclude the Doha Round negotiations by the end of 2011. We express our disappointment that it has not been possible to bridge the remaining gaps in the negotiations, including in agriculture, despite intensified work this year.

As Cairns Group Ministers, we share a strong concern about the current state of the Doha Round negotiations. We cannot ignore that after ten years an agreement still remains elusive. The agriculture negotiations have taken us far in terms of addressing distortions. However given the current challenges, we must engage in a frank discussion to develop a clear and realistic path forward to advance the needed reform and secure a fair, market-oriented and predictable trading environment, in accordance with the Doha Development mandate, including special and differential treatment. In doing so, we must also take into account that agriculture remains central to the negotiations, given its importance for the development needs of developing countries.

Agriculture remains one of the most highly trade-distorted sectors. There is still considerable scope within the existing commitments of most WTO members to increase levels of protection and distort international trade. The possibility that export subsidies continue beyond 2013 is unacceptable. Likewise, in view of its developmental impact, particularly on Africa, there is a pressing need to implement the Hong Kong mandate on cotton. The inability to lock in efforts to reduce, or in some instances prevent, the use of trade-distorting domestic support can only be damaging to the trading system over the long term. We acknowledge too that the benefits which might be secured through further improvements in market access multilaterally, far exceed the benefits which may be achieved through bilateral and regional trade agreements alone. As Cairns Group Ministers, the status quo is not acceptable and we remain determined to secure the genuine agricultural trade reforms that our agriculture producers so clearly need, and which are of such fundamental importance to development. There can be no weakening of ambition on these issues. The 8th WTO Ministerial Conference presents an opportunity that cannot be missed to assess the situation and take decisions on the way forward in the Doha negotiations.

- . We instruct our officials to work on concrete ideas leading up to the Ministerial Conference to secure a way ahead for the Doha Round negotiations on agriculture which will deliver genuine reforms, in accordance with the Doha Development mandate.

We wish to register our appreciation for the efforts of the Director-General of the WTO and the Chair of the Agriculture Negotiations Committee in seeking a way forward in these negotiations over the last two years.

Fostering Agricultural Trade

Continuing reform efforts

We had a broad ranging discussion on various agricultural trade policy issues as well as market access challenges facing agricultural products and identified opportunities to enhance our collaboration to foster a more open, fair and predictable trading system.

We noted that large economies including the US, EU and Japan are considering agricultural policy reforms. We consider that agricultural reforms should not be put off “waiting for better times.” But rather we believe that the current economic conditions should be embraced as an opportunity to make trade-enhancing reforms. These reforms can have the potential to offer direct benefits in terms of improved productivity and budgetary relief and also significant positive knock-on effects for the global trading system. The current EU Common Agriculture Policy discussions and the US Farm Bill processes provide an opportunity for real reform.

- . As Cairns Group members we instruct our officials to work together to monitor and analyse reform efforts and to use opportunities to advocate for trade-enhancing reforms.

We welcome the domestic decision of the Government of Canada to reform its single desk marketing system of the Canadian Wheat Board for trade of wheat and barley, as a positive contribution to improving productivity, promoting growth and enhancing the multilateral trading environment.

Food Security

We note the FAO estimates that the global population will increase to 9 billion by 2050 and as a consequence agricultural production will need to increase by 70 per cent, while facing emerging challenges such as climate change. As a collection of developed and developing country food exporters, the Cairns Group has a unique role to play in helping to meet these objectives. We fully support the central role of the FAO in the global governance of food security. There is a need to find new, innovative and sustainable means, including through the use of technologies, of increasing production capacities and improving access to food by reducing poverty and enhancing income distribution. As agricultural producers, the Cairns Group acknowledges that food security globally is a complex and multifaceted issue. We have pursued reforms through the Doha agriculture negotiations so vigorously because, amongst other things, we recognise that trade policy reform has a role to play in addressing food security. Furthermore, we recognise that trade policy reform is essential to the food security and poverty alleviation objectives of the Doha Development mandate.

Open, fair and well-functioning domestic and international markets spur investment, and create new opportunities for growth in output and improvements in farmers' income. Furthermore, we recognize that policies that distort production and trade in agricultural products can impede the achievement of long term food security. We consider our work under the WTO Agreements, particularly the Agreement on Agriculture, the Agreement on Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) and the Agreement on the Application of Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures (SPS), as well as the work of the international standard-setting bodies and the delivery of an outcome in the context of the Doha Development Round, can make a contribution to the issue of food security.

- . Accordingly, we instruct our officials to continue to examine these issues with the view to making a contribution to food security.

We noted that efforts to open up trade and ensure predictability can be undermined by overly complex and restrictive sanitary and phytosanitary measures and technical regulations, including food labelling requirements. Members discussed the increasing prevalence of private standards and the potential for these to impact on market access. We support the continued work on these issues under the existing framework of the WTO SPS & TBT Committees. We stressed the importance of relying on science-based approaches to resolve market access issues, as embodied in the principles set out under the WTO SPS and TBT agreements as well as in the work of international standard-setting bodies (Codex, OIE, IPPC). We committed to work together to further encourage the development and use of international standards and greater participation of developing countries in the standard setting process. We also recognized the need for capacity building to support implementation efforts in developing countries.

- . We instruct officials to explore means for further cooperation at the multilateral level on sanitary and phytosanitary measures and technical regulations including food labelling requirements which affect agricultural trade to ensure rules-based approaches to such issues.
- . We commit to adopt and maintain sanitary and phytosanitary measures and technical regulations in conformity with our rights and obligations under the WTO.

We take note of the initiative of Canada to organize an international meeting in 2012 on the issue of the unintended low level presence of a genetically modified product in exports of agricultural commodities.

We welcome the participation of the Russian delegation at our meeting to provide us with an update on Russia's accession to the WTO, including their domestic support proposal. Cairns Group countries express their strong support for Russia's accession to the WTO before the end of 2011 and we instruct our officials to work with Russian authorities to resolve outstanding issues.

We appreciate the presence of our Farm Leaders and our special guests from the EU, Japan, the Republic of Korea, Mexico, Morocco, the Russian Federation, the United States and Vietnam, who have attended this meeting and enriched our discussions through their contributions. We express our deepest gratitude to the Canadian Government for hosting the 36th Cairns Group Ministerial Meeting.

The Cairns Group comprises Argentina, Australia, Bolivia, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Guatemala, Indonesia, Malaysia, New Zealand, Pakistan, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, South Africa, Thailand and Uruguay.

Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures

Original: English/
French/
Spanish

52ND MEETING OF THE SANITARY AND PHYTOSANITARY (SPS) COMMITTEE

Update from the World Organization for Animal Health (OIE)

The following communication, received on 12 October 2011, is being circulated at the request of the OIE.

1. The OIE is pleased to provide this update to the 52nd meeting of the SPS Committee.
2. The report summarises key developments in the OIE standard-setting work programme, with a focus on the September 2011 meeting of the OIE Terrestrial Animal Health Standards Commission (Code Commission).
3. More detailed information may be obtained from the OIE (s.kahn@oie.int).
- 1. Official Recognition of Disease Free Status of Member Countries**
4. In the era of global freedom from rinderpest, the OIE is evaluating the scope to establish procedures for the official recognition of OIE members' freedom from other diseases of significance to international trade. Candidate diseases include African horse sickness, classical swine fever and peste de petits ruminants.
- 2. OIE Standard-Setting Procedures**
5. Since the General Session in May 2011, the OIE has taken steps to update its standard-setting procedures. A new document on the standard-setting procedures has been placed on the OIE website and may be found at Annex 1. (Also see: http://www.oie.int/fileadmin/Home/eng/Internationa_Standard_Setting/docs/pdf/A_OIE_procedures_stand__recom_2011.pdf).
6. A number of important modifications to the OIE Basic Texts will be proposed for adoption at the General Session 2012, dealing, inter alia, with the membership of elected commissions, declarations of confidentiality, avoidance of conflict of interest, and the arrangements for the approval of OIE Reference Centres.
- 3. Diseases of Bees**
7. Noting the importance of bees to agriculture production and some important threats to bee health globally, the OIE is revising the *Terrestrial Animal Health Code (Terrestrial Code)* chapters on bee diseases as a matter of priority.

4. Guidelines on Risk Assessment for Invasiveness of Animals

8. During the past few years, discussions have taken place between the secretariats of the OIE and the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), regarding "gaps in the coverage by international standards of risks associated with animals that may be invasive".

9. At its meeting in November 2011, the CBD's Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice (SBSTTA) will consider a recommendation:

"... encourag(ing) the World Trade Organization, its standard-setting organizations and the Standards and Trade Development Facility (STDF) to further address the risks associated with the introduction of alien species as pets, as live (fishing) bait and live food".

10. Noting that the OIE has the necessary international scientific expertise to provide guidance on scientific risk assessment pertaining to animals, and that at least one OIE Member had published an assessment in which the OIE methodology had been applied to an invasive species, the OIE has undertaken, in collaboration with the CBD Secretariat, to consider the development of guidelines on risk assessment for invasive animal species.

5. OIE Capacity-Building: PVS Pathway

11. As part of its global initiative to help strengthen the veterinary services (VS) and aquatic animal health services (AAHS) of members, the OIE is continuing to publish standards and recommendations on key elements of good governance. The OIE notes the pressing need for developing countries to modernise their veterinary legislation and considers that an OIE standard on this topic is needed to support them in this endeavour. Accordingly, the Code Commission will propose for adoption in 2012 a new standard on the topic of veterinary legislation, which is a critically important part of the infrastructure of VS and AAHS.

12. In another important development, later this year the OIE will publish its final recommendations on the Core Competencies of day 1 Graduate Veterinarians.

13. Finally, following the successful OIE Global Conference on Aquatic Animal Health Programmes – their benefits for global food security (Panama, 28–30 June 2011), the OIE has been pleased to receive several requests for evaluations of AAHS using the modified OIE PVS Tool, and is gradually working through these evaluations. Also arising from the conference recommendations, the OIE will address the issue of competence and education of aquatic animal professionals. The Panama conference recommendations may be viewed at http://www.oie.int/fileadmin/Home/eng/Conferences_Events/docs/pdf/recommendations/A_Declaration.pdf.

14. A summary of progress on PVS Pathway evaluations may be found at Annex 2.

6. Future Development of the Terrestrial Code to Address Wildlife Species

15. Noting the important role of wildlife in relation to healthy ecosystems, and the interaction between diseases of livestock, wild animals and humans (the "One Health" approach), the Code Commission advised on the proposed future development of the *Terrestrial Code* to address these issues and sought Member comments on the proposed approach.

7. Trade in Animal Products ("Safe Commodities")

16. Considering the need to continue developing the concept of "safe commodities" to facilitate international trade without necessarily requiring that countries eradicate listed diseases, and noting that the concept of "safe commodities", as applied by the OIE is not well understood and applied, the Code Commission proposed to develop a new chapter on this issue. It is anticipated that a new standard could be adopted at the General Session in May 2013.

8. Joint Approach to Standards by the OIE and the Codex Alimentarius Commission

17. The Code Commission commended the increasingly close collaboration between the OIE and the Codex Alimentarius Commission (CAC) on standards relating to food safety hazards arising at the "on-farm" phase of food production. Recent examples of such work include standards on salmonella species and zoonotic parasites. A joint approach by OIE and CAC to standard-setting on some key topics is strongly recommended with the objective of ensuring appropriate harmonisation of standards and recommendations while avoiding duplication of effort, overlap and gaps in standard-setting work. The Commission saw a need for collaboration both at the work-planning stage and during the technical assessment.

9. Risk Assessment – Modification of Terminology

18. The Commission proposed to modify the *Terrestrial Code*, based on the internationally accepted practice of referring to an "entry assessment" rather than a "release assessment" and to harmonise with the terminology used in the *OIE Handbook on Import Risk Analysis*. The proposed modifications do not change the obligations of Members in the context of the SPS Agreement.

10. Discussion Paper on the Provisions of the Quran for Protecting Animals against Cruelty

19. Noting that public concern about inhumane treatment of animals has the potential to cause serious disruption to international trade, the OIE has developed a discussion paper to raise awareness of the provisions of the Quran for protecting animals against cruelty at the time of slaughter. This paper concludes that there is no conflict between OIE standards for humane slaughter and the teachings of the Quran. The paper was well received by delegates at the OIE Regional Conference for the Middle East, held in Beirut, Lebanon 3-6 October 2011.

ANNEX 1: THE OIE STANDARD-SETTING PROCEDURES
PROCEDURES USED BY THE OIE TO SET STANDARDS AND
RECOMMENDATIONS FOR INTERNATIONAL TRADE,
WITH A FOCUS ON THE *TERRESTRIAL* AND
AQUATIC ANIMAL HEALTH CODES

1. Introduction

This paper provides an overview of the procedures used by the OIE to set standards and recommendations for international trade, with a focus on the *Terrestrial* and *Aquatic Animal Health Codes* (the *Codes*). The texts in these publications are developed and revised using an established procedure. There is only one pathway for adoption of OIE standards, i.e. approval by the World Assembly of Delegates (World Assembly) meeting annually at the OIE General Session.

The World Trade Organization (WTO) Agreement on the Application of Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures recognises the OIE standards as fundamental references for animal health and zoonotic diseases. Application and use of the standards by WTO Members is important to facilitate safe international trade in animals and their products.

The OIE procedures provide a basis for rapidity, flexibility, scientific rigour and transparency in the setting of standards. Important features of the standard-setting procedures are outlined in this paper.

Contact: trade.dept@oie.int

2. OIE standards and recommendations for international trade

2.1. The OIE publications

The publications that are commonly referred to, collectively, as the OIE standards are:

- the *Terrestrial Animal Health Code* (the *Terrestrial Code*)
- the *Manual of Diagnostic Tests and Vaccines for Terrestrial Animals* (the *Terrestrial Manual*)
- the *Aquatic Animal Health Code* (the *Aquatic Code*)
- the *Manual of Diagnostic Tests for Aquatic Animals* (the *Aquatic Manual*).

2.2. International trade in animals and their products

The *Terrestrial Code* and the *Aquatic Code* contain science-based recommendations for disease reporting, prevention and control and for assuring safe international trade in terrestrial animals (mammals, birds and bees) and aquatic animals (amphibians, fish, crustaceans and molluscs) and their products. The *Codes* detail the sanitary measures for animal diseases, including zoonoses, which should be used by the Veterinary Services and other Competent Authorities of importing and exporting countries. Correctly applied, these measures prevent the introduction and spread, via animals and their products, of agents that are pathogenic for animals and/or humans.

2.3. Diagnostic tools and vaccines

The *Terrestrial Manual* and the *Aquatic Manual* contain OIE international standards on quality management in testing laboratories, principles of validation and quality control of diagnostic assays, and diagnostic testing methods for specific diseases including official tests listed in the *Terrestrial*

and *Aquatic Codes*. The *Terrestrial Manual* also provides generic and specific guidance on vaccine quality. In addition to the *Manual*, the OIE publishes a list of approved Standard Sera (reagents) produced by OIE Reference Laboratories, validates and certifies commercially-available diagnostic assays, and publishes a list of the tests certified "fit for purpose" in the OIE Register of Diagnostic Tests. Assessment of diagnostic tools for terrestrial animals is carried out under the auspices of the OIE Biological Standards Commission (Laboratories Commission). For aquatic animals, assessment of diagnostic tools is the responsibility of the Aquatic Animal Health Standards Commission (Aquatic Animals Commission).

2.4. Official disease status of OIE Member Countries

The OIE recognises the official disease status of Member Countries for foot and mouth disease, bovine spongiform encephalopathy and contagious bovine pleuropneumonia. The currently recognised official disease status for the specified diseases is published on the OIE website at: <http://www.oie.int/en/animal-health-in-the-world/official-disease-status/>.

3. Procedures for the elaboration of the OIE *Terrestrial and Aquatic Animal Health Codes*

3.1. General considerations

The procedures for developing and updating the *Terrestrial Code* and the *Aquatic Code* are flexible, transparent and rapid. Importantly, they provide a basis for continuous improvement to standards as new scientific information comes to light, and for "fast track" adoption of new standards when Member Countries need to address important new risks to human and animal health on an urgent basis.

Each one of the 178 OIE Member Countries has an equal voice in the development and adoption of standards and each Member Country has a responsibility to engage with the OIE in this important work.

Specialist Commissions play a central role in the OIE standard-setting procedures. They comprise six members (normally), elected by the World Assembly for a three year mandate, in compliance with the terms of reference established in the OIE Organic Texts, which provide for scientific excellence and geographic balance.

Recommendations on new standards and on significant revisions of existing standards are developed by small groups of independent experts (*ad hoc* Groups), which report to a Specialist Commission. Reporting may be direct to the Specialist Commission or, depending on the topic, via a permanent OIE Working Group, which in turn reports to Specialist Commissions. Membership of Working Groups is proposed by the Director General and is endorsed by the World Assembly. All draft texts are reviewed by the relevant Specialist Commission, then provided to OIE Member Countries for comment. All comments submitted by Member Countries are reviewed by the Specialist Commissions, who may deal with comments directly or may send them to the *ad hoc* Group and/or Working Group for consideration and advice, as appropriate. The reports of *ad hoc* Groups submitted to Specialist Commissions, as well as the Commission's review of Member Country comments are documented in the meeting report of the Specialist Commission, which is sent to Member Countries after each meeting and is also placed on the OIE website. In March of each year, as part of the meeting report of the Specialist Commissions that have met by February, all texts proposed for adoption at the General Session (held in May) are sent to Member Countries for consideration prior to presentation to the World Assembly in May for adoption. Twice yearly, following distribution of Specialist Commission reports, OIE Member Countries have the opportunity (normally during a 60 day period) to submit written comments. Although there is no provision for written comments to be presented to the General Session, there is opportunity to make oral statements and to request clarification of texts before adoption.

The normal cycle for the adoption of new texts in the *Codes* is two years, meaning that the development of a new text is the subject of consultation with OIE Member Countries on two to four occasions during that period. In the case of emergency situations warranting a more rapid procedure, standards may be developed within a shorter period. Less significant modifications to existing texts may also be undertaken in a one year period, if Member Countries agree to the proposed modifications.

There is only one pathway for the adoption of OIE standards, i.e. approval by the World Assembly, meeting annually at the OIE General Session. Revisions to the *Codes* are adopted via resolutions. In almost all cases, standards are adopted by consensus. In a small minority of cases, where it is not possible to achieve consensus, standards have been adopted after a vote. Voting is normally done by a show of hands and a two-thirds majority is sufficient for the adoption of a standard. More than half the Delegates representing Member Countries must be present in order to have a quorum for the adoption of standards.

Each OIE Member Country has an equal voice in the adoption of standards. Partner organisations may attend technical sessions of the General Session in an observer capacity but they do not have the right to participate in the adoption of standards. Discussion and decisions of the World Assembly on the adoption of standards are recorded in a report presented for adoption at the end of the General Session. This report is provided to Delegates and is placed on the OIE website accessible to the public.

Additional information on the OIE Organic Rules, General Rules, structure and organisation may be found on the OIE website at <http://www.oie.int/about-us/key-texts/basic-texts/>.

Detailed information on the work of the Specialist Commissions and Working Groups may be found on the OIE website at <http://www.oie.int/en/international-standard-setting/overview/>.

3.2. The work programme for setting standards

Requests for the development of a new standard or the revision of an existing standard come to the OIE from various sources. Proposals from OIE Delegates are given highest priority, particularly if several OIE Member Countries support the request. Proposals from international and regional organisations that have official agreements with the OIE are also given priority. Requests from other organisations, be they scientific, industry or non-governmental organisations (NGO), are also considered but generally as a lower priority. A Specialist Commission may propose new work to be undertaken by itself or by another Specialist Commission. Proposals for developing new or revised standards are identified in the work programmes of the Specialist Commissions and permanent working groups, which are submitted to OIE Delegates for information annually at the General Session.

The OIE Strategic Plan sets out the priorities, strategies and overall direction of the OIE's work programme, including for standard setting. It is developed under the direct supervision of the Director-General in consultation with the OIE Council (the Board) and submitted by him to the World Assembly for approval once every five years. The current OIE Strategic Plan (2011–2016) was adopted in May 2010.

The five Regional Commissions (Asia, Far East and Oceania; Americas; Europe; Africa and Middle-East) provide important input to the strategic planning process and to identifying priorities for standard setting. The Recommendations adopted by Regional Commissions, and those voted at OIE Global Conferences, often identify a need for the OIE to develop standards relevant to matters of strategic importance. These recommendations are presented to the World Assembly for endorsement at each General Session.

The work programmes of the Specialist Commissions are established within the overall framework of the OIE Strategic Plan. Proposals received by these Commissions are evaluated in terms of:

- (i) the likely extent of Members' support, as evidenced from comments relevant to the request; and
- (ii) the availability of scientific information needed to develop a standard.

In the case of the Terrestrial Animal Health Standards Commission (Code Commission), the opinions of the Scientific Commission on Animal Diseases (Scientific Commission) and the Laboratories Commission are critical in determining whether there is sufficient scientific information to support the development of a new or revised standard. In effect, the absence of key information, notably on disease aetiology or diagnostic methods, prevents the development of a new standard. The Code Commission and the Scientific Commission regularly hold a one-day joint meeting to discuss matters of common interest and harmonise work programmes on the development of standards. Communications between Specialist Commissions are documented in their meeting reports.

The reports of the Code and Aquatic Animals Commissions, along with their work programmes, are adopted annually by the World Assembly. In the period between General Sessions, opportunities are also provided for comment.

3.3. Role of OIE headquarters

OIE headquarters staff are responsible to ensure that the *Terrestrial* and *Aquatic Codes* are kept up to date on an ongoing basis. Non-significant revisions, including modifications to ensure consistency of chapters within the *Codes*, and harmonisation between the *Aquatic Code* and the *Terrestrial Code* are undertaken by the OIE International Trade Department in liaison with the responsible Commission. When a proposal is made to develop a new standard or to significantly revise an existing standard, the Director General of the OIE decides how the work will be managed, with reference to the terms of reference of the four OIE Specialist Commissions and the human resources at OIE headquarters.

The Director General of the OIE decides the terms of reference and membership of *ad hoc* Groups convened to prepare draft texts on specific topics. In taking this decision, he takes into account any opinions of relevant Specialist Commissions and the comments of OIE Members as appropriate. OIE Member Countries are informed of these matters at the annual General Session. *Ad hoc* Groups may address specific diseases or 'horizontal issues' (relating to diseases in general; or to cross cutting themes). When convening Working Groups (of which the membership is endorsed by the World Assembly) and *ad hoc* Groups, the Director General seeks experts with internationally recognised knowledge of the topic and to obtain the broadest regional representation. As a priority he draws upon the experts within the global network of more than 250 OIE Reference Centres worldwide.

The Director General may request that a "supporting document" be drafted by an expert, usually an official from an OIE Reference Centre. Supporting documents contain the latest scientific information relevant to the topic, e.g. relating to infective period, host distribution, transmission mechanisms, diagnostic methods, treatment and control. They are a valuable resource for *ad hoc* Groups and Working Groups and key scientific references for OIE Member Countries.

The Director General forwards the reports of Working Groups and *ad hoc* Groups to relevant Specialist Commissions for further consideration.

Each *ad hoc* Group, Working Group and Specialist Commission receives logistic and secretariat support from staff at OIE headquarters. To facilitate consistency in the drafting of texts intended for adoption in the *Codes* and *Manuals*, Groups may consult a guidance document prepared by OIE

headquarters. All experts and members of ad hoc Groups, Working Groups and Specialist Commissions must sign a declaration attesting to confidentiality and to the absence of conflict of interest.

According to the OIE Staff Regulations approved by the World Assembly, all headquarters staff are obliged to be impartial and to respect the confidentiality of information provided by Members.

3.4. Role of OIE Specialist Commissions

- The Terrestrial Animal Health Standards Commission is responsible for the *Terrestrial Animal Health Code*.
- The Aquatic Animal Health Standards Commission is responsible for the *Aquatic Animal Health Code* and the *Manual of Diagnostic Tests for Aquatic Animals*.
- The Scientific Commission for Animal Diseases is responsible for drafting texts for eventual inclusion in the *Terrestrial Animal Health Code* and for the recognition of Member Countries' official disease status.
- The Biological Standards Commission is responsible for the *Manual of Diagnostic Tests and Vaccines for Terrestrial Animals* and for the approval of standard sera and the certification of diagnostic assays.

Specialist Commissions play a key role in the OIE standard-setting procedures. Commissions normally have six members, who are elected by the World Assembly on the basis of excellence and geographical balance. Regional Commissions propose candidates and the World Assembly elects the members of Specialist Commissions for a three year term. The general functioning of Specialist Commissions is described in the OIE Basic Texts ("<http://www.oie.int/about-us/key-texts/basic-texts/specialist-commissions/>") and is not, therefore, described in detail in this paper. However, some aspects that are relevant to standard setting are described below.

The Specialist Commissions meet twice each year. At their bi-annual meetings, the Specialist Commissions examine submissions made by OIE Member Countries and submissions from other sources, and the reports of relevant Working Groups and *ad hoc* Groups that have held meetings in the preceding semester. The Code Commission also considers submissions from the Scientific Commission on draft texts for possible inclusion in the *Terrestrial Code*. The two Commissions responsible for the *Codes* regularly consult on the harmonisation of horizontal aspects.

The Commissions determine how to incorporate scientific recommendations into the new or revised standard. While submissions from OIE Member Countries and OIE Reference Centres are of greatest importance, Commissions also consider scientific information from other sources, including OIE partner organisations and both private sector and non-governmental organisations, in order to ensure that the proposed standards are based on comprehensive and up-to-date scientific information.

Each Specialist Commission compiles a meeting report that includes, as annexed documents, the reports of all Working Groups and *ad hoc* Groups considered by the Commission. The meeting report also explains how the various submissions were addressed. OIE Member Countries and others submitting comments are encouraged to provide a scientific rationale for their comments, to facilitate analysis by Specialist Commissions.

On a twice yearly basis, OIE Member Countries are invited to comment on the recommendations in the reports of Specialist Commissions. Organisations with which the OIE has formal agreements may also be invited to provide advice, depending on the relevant areas of expertise.

Thus, the "two-year standard-setting cycle" may afford as many as four opportunities for comment. All Commission reports, in English, French and Spanish, are placed on the OIE website: (see <http://www.oie.int/international-standard-setting/specialists-commissions-groups/>).

In reviewing draft new or revised standards in the *Terrestrial* and *Aquatic Codes*, the relevant Commissions consider the extent to which OIE Member Countries support the recommendations and the rationale provided, particularly in the case of criticisms of a draft text. If, after at least two rounds of comment, there is widespread support for the proposed new or revised standard, the relevant Commissions may decide to submit the chapter for adoption at the following OIE General Session. If, however, significant concern is expressed or if Member Country comments suggest a need for further technical work, the relevant Commissions may re-examine the issue. If scientific or technical questions outside its expertise are raised, the Commissions will normally ask the Working Group or the relevant *ad hoc* Group to re-examine the issues and provide advice to the relevant Commissions. Another round of consultation with OIE Member Countries will then be undertaken.

In reviewing draft new or revised standards in the *Terrestrial* and *Aquatic Manuals*, the Laboratories Commission and the Aquatic Animals Commission rely on the preparatory work done by one or more OIE Experts or an *ad hoc* Group. When Commissions consider that after one round of comments a draft standard is ready for adoption, they submit the draft standard to the World Assembly. Thus, OIE Member Countries have the opportunity to comment on at least two occasions before final adoption. As of September 2011, the structure and organisation of the OIE *Manuals* was under review.

3.5. Role of OIE Working Groups

The OIE currently has three 'permanent' Working Groups, which are responsible for the general management and oversight of the OIE work programme in three thematic areas:

The Animal Welfare Working Group reports to the Code or Aquatic Animals Commissions, as relevant to the topic.

The Animal Production Food Safety Working Group reports to the Code or Aquatic Animals Commissions, as relevant to the topic.

The Working Group on Wildlife Diseases reports to the Scientific Commission.

OIE Working Groups play an important role in setting standards in the three thematic areas. The work programme of each Working Group is presented to the relevant Specialist Commission and, via the report of the Commissions, to the World Assembly for information and comment annually.

To assist in addressing new themes and significant developments, Working Groups may take responsibility for drafting discussion papers and strategy papers to establish key principles and directions for the OIE to follow in standard setting. In all cases, these papers, along with the recommendations of Specialist Commissions, are provided to OIE Member Countries for information and comment. Once endorsed, Working Group papers can provide a framework and key principles for OIE standard setting.

Members of Specialist Commissions may participate in Working Groups as observers to facilitate communication between these Working Groups and the relevant Commission. However, a member of a Specialist Commission may not chair a Working Group.

In addition to being circulated with the reports of Specialist Commissions, Working Group reports, after approval by the relevant Commission, are put on dedicated pages on the OIE website along with other information relevant to the theme (e.g. <http://www.oie.int/animal-welfare/animal-welfare-key->

[themes/](#)"). The terms of reference and membership of OIE Working Groups are included on these thematic website pages. The members of the Working Groups are nominated by the Director General of the OIE and endorsed by the World Assembly annually at the General Session. In addition to representation from the five OIE regions, relevant public and private sector partners of the OIE may participate in Working Groups.

3.6. Role of OIE *ad hoc* Groups

As described above, the initial drafting of a new standard and any significant revision of an existing standard is normally undertaken by a group of experts specifically convened to an *ad hoc* Group tasked with the work in question. OIE *ad hoc* Groups normally comprise up to six scientists with internationally recognised expertise in a disease or topic. OIE Reference Centres (comprising Reference Laboratories and Collaborating Centres) are a common source of experts but participants are also drawn from academia, industry organisations, NGOs and OIE partner organisations. OIE Member Countries and organisations having an official agreement with the OIE also submit lists of experts for various topics, which are held on file at OIE headquarters.

OIE *ad hoc* Groups may meet once or several times. A few *ad hoc* Groups, especially those tasked with the evaluation of disease status, meet regularly, once or twice a year, depending on the number of applications received from OIE Member Countries. The composition and terms of reference may change from one meeting to another if needed. In addition to preparing a first draft text for consideration by the relevant Specialist Commission, they may be re-convened to advise Specialist Commissions on submissions and on draft texts submitted by Member Countries.

The members of *ad hoc* Groups are nominated on the basis of excellence and geographical balance by the Director General, who takes into account any recommendations that OIE Member Countries may have provided, in addition to ensuring that participants are drawn from all five OIE regions, to the extent that this is practicable. Members of Specialist Commissions and Working Groups may participate as observers in *ad hoc* Groups to facilitate communication between these Groups and the relevant Commission. However, a member of a Specialist Commission may not chair an *ad hoc* Group.

The terms of reference of *ad hoc* Groups are decided by the Director General, taking into account the requests of Members, the opinion and advice of relevant Specialist Commissions and, as appropriate, Working Groups.

Reports of *ad hoc* Groups, including draft standards, reflect a consensual position of all members of the Group. Where scientific uncertainty leads to differences of opinion on the appropriate means to manage risk, options to address uncertainties are fully documented in the Group's report.

The membership and terms of reference of *ad hoc* Groups are included in their reports, which are provided to OIE Member Countries with the report of the Specialist Commissions to which the Groups report, through the Director General.

3.7. Role of OIE Experts and OIE Reference Centres

The OIE calls upon the expertise of renowned scientists in the development and significant revision of standards. The major source of OIE experts is the OIE-designated Reference Centres, comprising Reference Laboratories and Collaborating Centres, which number more than 250 institutes globally. Each OIE Reference Laboratory has an OIE-designated Expert whose competence on a specific pathogen/disease is recognised internationally. Collaborating Centres of the OIE offer experts in specific fields. The OIE also calls on institutes other than OIE Reference Centres as necessary.

The experts serving as members of the OIE Specialist Commissions, Working Groups and *ad hoc* Groups act in their personal capacity as independent scientists, not as representatives of a country or an organisation, to serve the overall interest of the OIE and its Member Countries. Upon appointment, they are required to sign a Confidentiality Undertaking and submit a declaration of interest, in accordance with the relevant rules of the OIE, to ensure proper management of transparency and potential conflict of interest and to assure the impartiality, objectivity and scientific integrity of the OIE's work. The same requirements apply to all experts, regardless of the specific mission or task. The rules governing confidentiality and conflict of interest are set out by the Director General in conformity with the provisions in the Basic Texts and as agreed with the OIE Council (the elected Board of the OIE).

The experts from OIE Reference Centres are requested to respect confidentiality of information and refrain from engaging in any work that might compromise or generate conflict with the mandate of OIE Reference Centre, including in relation to standard setting.

Recognising the need to improve the geographic distribution of Reference Centres in the world, the OIE is implementing a laboratory twinning programme, with the specific objective of strengthening the capacity of developing countries to contribute to the OIE standard-setting process.

3.8. Role of OIE Member Countries and Delegates

Participation in the process of development and adoption of OIE standards is a responsibility of each OIE Member Country, as defined in the OIE Organic Rules. This activity is coordinated through the permanent national Delegate, who is, in most cases, the Head of the national Veterinary Services. The OIE encourages national Delegates to nominate, under their authority, focal points on seven topics (disease notification; animal welfare; animal production food safety; veterinary products; wildlife; aquatic animals; and communications) to help the Delegate to meet his/her responsibilities, particularly in relation to standard setting. The OIE undertakes capacity building to support Delegates and nominated focal points, including by the regular conduct of seminars on the OIE and its standard-setting procedures.

Experts, industry groups and organisations wishing to participate in the process of standards development may send submissions direct to the OIE but they are strongly encouraged to provide their input through a relevant national Delegate.

OIE Delegates are informed of new or revised draft standards and are consulted at different steps of development, as mentioned above. Their comments are the key inputs to future OIE standards. They elect Members of Specialist Commissions (as well as members of the Council and members of Regional Commissions) and they endorse, on an annual basis, the membership of OIE permanent Working Groups.

The Member Countries also contribute to OIE standard setting through financial and other support of OIE Reference Centres located in their territory, most of which are government institutes.

4. Conclusions

As outlined above, the OIE procedures provide a basis for rapidity, flexibility, scientific rigour and transparency in the development of standards. Key aspects relating to transparency are as follows:

- Standards are drafted by independent experts drawn from different OIE regions and selected on the basis of scientific excellence and geographical balance. Mechanisms are in place to ensure the neutrality and scientific integrity of experts appointed to work with the OIE.

- All reports of *ad hoc* Groups are reviewed by Specialist Commissions, comprising elected members, and, as appropriate, by Working Groups. These reviews particularly consider the risk management options proposed.
- Reports of Specialist Commissions, Working Groups and *ad hoc* Groups are made available to Members and the public via publication on the OIE website.
- OIE Member Countries have scheduled opportunities to comment on draft standards.
- Member Country comments are reviewed by the Specialist Commissions, which advise Delegates of their analysis and decisions on these comments by report on the OIE website.
- All standards are adopted by the World Assembly, usually by consensus or, in rare cases, by a two thirds majority vote.
- Each one of the 178 OIE Member Countries has an equal voice in the development and adoption of standards and each has a responsibility to engage with the OIE in this important work.

ANNEX 2: A SUMMARY OF PROGRESS ON PVS PATHWAY EVALUATIONS

PVS Evaluation missions: State of play (30 Sept. 2011)

	OIE Members	PVS evaluations requests received	PVS evaluations missions implemented	Draft PVS evaluations reports received	Reports available for (restricted) distribution to donors and partners
Africa	52	50	45	43	35
Americas	29	22	20	20	17
Asia, the Far East and Oceania	32	18	15	14	11
Europe	53	14	13	13	10
Middle East	12	12	11	11	5
TOTAL	178	116	104	101	78

PVS Gap analysis: State of play (30 Sept. 2011)

	OIE Members	PVS gap analysis requests received	PVS gap analysis missions implemented	PVS gap analysis missions reports received	Reports available for (restricted) distribution to donors and partners
Africa	52	31	25	19	9
Americas	29	11	7	6	2
Asia, the Far East and Oceania	32	12	8	7	4
Europe	53	6	5	4	1
Middle East	12	8	2	2	0
TOTAL	178	68	47	38	16

Veterinary legislation: State of play (30 Sept. 2011)

	OIE Members	PVS legislation missions requests received	PVS legislation missions implemented	PVS legislation document received
Africa	52	19	12	12
Americas	29	4	2	2
Asia, the Far East and Oceania	32	4	3	3
Europe	53	3	1	1
Middle East	12	4	4	4
TOTAL	178	34	22	22

**REPORT OF THE INTERNATIONAL PLANT PROTECTION
CONVENTION SECRETARIAT (IPPC)**

Meeting of 19-20 October 2011

The following communication, received on 13 October 2011, is being circulated at the request of the IPPC secretariat.

I. INTRODUCTION

1. This report covers the period July- October 2011.
2. The Committee is invited to note that as of October 2011, there are 177 contracting parties to the IPPC.

II. STANDARD-SETTING WORK PROGRAMME

A. FOCUS GROUP ON IMPROVING THE STANDARD SETTING PROCESS

3. The IPPC secretariat convened a Focus Group for improving the standard setting process. The European and Mediterranean Plant Protection Organization (EPPO) hosted the meeting in Paris, France from 25-29 July 2011. In addition to regional representatives, experts from both Codex Alimentarius and OIE participated in the meeting. Best practices for the International Standard Setting Bodies (ISSBs) were discussed, which benefitted all ISSBs, and the Focus Group proposed that some of these efficiencies be incorporated into the IPPC process.

4. The key recommendations from the Focus Group are: that the Commission on Phytosanitary Measures (CPM) should no longer draft texts; there should be only one standards setting process, with modifications for technical standards; the CPM should delegate its authority to the Standards Committee (SC) to adopt diagnostic protocols on its behalf; and a Framework for Standards should be developed. In addition, several specific recommendations on increasing effectiveness and efficiency were made. The informal working group on Strategic Planning and Technical Assistance (SPTA) reviewed the Focus Group's recommendations at its meeting in early October 2011 and suggested further adjustments (details will be provided in the SPTA meeting report, still under development). The SC will review these recommendations and suggestions in November 2011 and a final set of recommendations will be submitted to CPM-7 (2012) in March. The full Focus Group report is posted on the International Phytosanitary Portal (IPP) at <https://www.ippc.int/index.php?id=207776>.

B. MEMBER CONSULTATION AND THE ONLINE COMMENT SYSTEM (OCS)

5. The 2011 member consultation for draft standards (100 days) closed on 30 September 2011. This was the first year that the secretariat used the recently developed IPPC Online Comment System (OCS). The secretariat also used the OCS to enter comments during the 2011 Regional Workshops for the review of draft International Standards for Phytosanitary Measures (ISPMs), which allowed workshop participants to develop comments and share them. Members could then review the workshop comments and accept them as their own or further modify them before submitting them to the IPPC secretariat. The OCS has been well received by the phytosanitary community and over 95 per cent of the comments received were submitted using the system, which has saved the IPPC secretariat valuable resources and has allowed the comments to be instantly compiled. Minor problems were quickly resolved and user feedback has been provided to help improve the system. It is hoped that a revised version of the OCS will be released in time for members to enter their substantive comments on the draft standards going to CPM-7 (2012) in March.

6. Many members and international organizations have also expressed interest in cloning the IPPC OCS to be used for their own commenting purposes, and the IPPC secretariat has been investigating this.

C. SEA CONTAINERS STANDARD

7. Work continues on the drafting of a standard on the topic Minimizing pest movement by sea containers and conveyances in international trade (Specification 51). Experts have worked virtually to develop a first draft and those experts who have contributed substantially to this draft will be called to a small expert working group (EWG) which will be held in Rome, Italy, 15-17 November 2011.

D. A NEW LOOK FOR STANDARDS

8. The IPPC secretariat was requested by the Standards Committee to review the way it published ISPMs. For several years, ISPMs were printed individually and in a book of standards, but in an effort to save resources, the secretariat began to only publish the book and individual standards on the web. There were several requests by CPM members to reorganize the standards and align previously published standards with newly published standards. The secretariat has explored several ways to accomplish these tasks. At CPM-5 (2010) and CPM-6 (2011), ink amendments were noted which would help bring the standards in-line for consistency. In addition, the format of the standards was modernized and publication histories have been added. The secretariat is in the final stages of posting these newly formatted standards which will also incorporate recent ink amendments. ISPMs will now be published individually in PDF format with the Annexes to ISPM 27:2006 (diagnostic protocols) and ISPM 28:2007 (phytosanitary treatments) published separately. It is hoped that, in this new format, users will be able to quickly combine the ISPMs into books of standards which can be tailored to the user's needs (e.g. a book of fruit fly standards, etc.). This initial reformatting has been initiated for the English versions of the ISPMs, and, as resources become available, will be applied to versions in other official languages.

E. 2012 WORK PLAN

9. The 2012 budget and work plan for standard setting has just been approved. As a result of some extra budgetary resources (both funds and in kind contributions) coming from members, the IPPC secretariat is able to restart work on the following technical panels which had been put on hold in 2011: Technical Panel on Diagnostic Protocols, Technical Panel on the Glossary and Technical Panel on Phytosanitary Treatments.

F. ADOPTED ISPMs

10. Currently approved International Standards for Phytosanitary Measures can be found here: "[https://www.ippc.int/index.php?id=1110798&frompage=13399&tx_publication_pi1\[showUid\]=2181813&type=publication&L=0](https://www.ippc.int/index.php?id=1110798&frompage=13399&tx_publication_pi1[showUid]=2181813&type=publication&L=0)"

III. INFORMATION EXCHANGE

A. CONTACT POINTS

11. Through 10 October 2011, over 87 per cent of IPPC contact points have updated their information at least once. This means that contracting parties communicating with other IPPC contact points should visit the IPP frequently to ensure they have the latest contact information.

B. UNOFFICIAL CONTACT POINTS

12. The secretariat continues to work with a small number of countries that need to nominate their IPPC contact points officially.

C. INTERNATIONAL PHYTOSANITARY PORTAL (IPP) - [HTTPS://WWW.IPPC.INT](https://www.ippc.int)

13. There continues to be a lot of information being made available by countries through the IPP and the IPPC secretariat. Countries are encouraged to periodically visit the site for updates.

14. The IPP now provides Russian navigation and the secretariat continue to work with China to provide the site with Chinese navigation.

15. Usage of the IPP continues to increase but it is apparent that this can be improved in certain regions and in certain countries. Internet access/reliability has a role to play in certain countries, but access in many countries is improving.

16. The site is currently being developed to substantially increase the amount of information available to support standard implementation and capacity development and the Implementation Review and Support System (IRSS) will come on-line in the near future with a functional Help Desk..

D. PEST REPORTING

17. National pest reporting continues to improve but there is still potential for further improvement. The 2011 reporting year has seen a substantial increase in the number of pest reports. The secretariat is working on this information to allow users to access this information in a more constructive and analytical manner.

E. COMMUNICATIONS STRATEGY

18. The IPPC secretariat continues to develop an IPPC communications strategy that is now greatly facilitated by agreement in CPM on the IPPC Strategic Objectives. The 60th Anniversary of the IPPC in 2012 will provide an opportunity to increase the visibility and profile of the IPPC, particularly in support of the IPPC Resources Mobilization Strategy.

IV. DISPUTE SETTLEMENT

19. The phytosanitary trade dispute between South Africa and the European Union is on-going and further announcements will be made as information becomes available and when appropriate.

20. The CPM has recently referred concerns regarding ISPM implementation to the Subsidiary Body on Dispute Settlement (SBDS) for discussion and guidance. This mechanism already exists and will now be active for the first time.

21. Given a number of WTO papers on informal discussions to resolve trade disputes, the IPPC secretariat would like to note the success of such discussions through the IPPC secretariat and FAO in the past. It is believed a number of disputes have been resolved in this way that before would have become formal disputes. Such "dispute avoidance" mechanisms are encouraged and the IPPC secretariat is available to continue facilitating this process.

V. CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT

A. CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY AND RELATED ISSUES

22. The results of the work of the IPPC Expert Working Group on Capacity Development (EWG) tasked to review and refine the phytosanitary capacity development operational plan of the Convention, assist the secretariat with developing national phytosanitary capacity, and consider the need for a permanent CPM body that deals with capacity development, were presented to the CPM Bureau and IPPC Strategic Planning Group in October 2011.

23. The reviewed proposal of the operational plan and associated budget for capacity development and a full set of documents providing an analysis on the possible creation of a CPM Subsidiary Body on Capacity Development or an IPPC Technical Committee on Capacity development are going to be provided to the IPPC community for consideration at CPM-7 in 2012.

24. Following the recommendations of CPM-5 (2010) and the work agreed in the EWG, the secretariat is developing a phytosanitary resources page that is going to be able to make available databases on projects and activities, a roster of experts, diagnostic protocols, training materials, E-learning courses, manuals, Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs), photos and videos appropriate for developing the phytosanitary capacity of IPPC member countries.

25. IPPC contracting parties, Regional Plant Protection Organizations and International Organizations are contributing to this page sending links and documents to populate the page.

B. PROJECTS

26. The secretariat continued its active collaboration with donor agencies and contracting parties in the delivery of technical assistance for capacity development in projects funded through various sources. In particular, the articulation and support to STDF activities has substantially increased.

27. The number of projects in which the IPPC secretariat is involved with different levels of participation has reached 35 projects of national, regional and global nature in 2011 and five requests for new projects related to the application of the Phytosanitary Capacity Evaluation Tool (PCE) have been received and shall be considered for 2012. The IPPC secretariat shall be directly involved in 2012 in a project to increase the phytosanitary capacity of ten Central African countries in 2012, in relation to their participation in the IPPC activities and in the protection of their food security and safe trade.

C. REGIONAL WORKSHOPS ON DRAFT ISPMs

28. In 2011, the draft ISPMs were reviewed in the following regions:

Region	Date (2010 Tentative)	Venue	Organized by	Other Funding Source
Africa	13-16 September	Libreville, Gabon	IAPSC	PANSPSO/EU/AU
Asia	6-10 September	Busan City, Rep. of Korea	FAO	Rep. of Korea/Japan
Caribbean	26 July	Bridgetown, Barbados	IDB/SPS	IDB/SPS
CIS countries and Central Asia	11-15 July	Bykovo, Moscow Region	FAO-EPPO	FAO
Latin America	19-23 September	San Jose, Costa Rica	IICA COSAVE OIRSA IPPC	
Near East	10-14 September	Cairo, Egypt	FAO	
Pacific	7-14 September	Nadi, Fiji	SPC	Australia

29. After the deadline of 30 September 2011, comments were presented to the secretariat through the OCS. The secretariat is still analyzing the results of a survey to workshop attendees to address the association between workshop attendance and participation in the standards development process.

VI. IMPLEMENTATION REVIEW AND SUPPORT SYSTEM (IRSS)

30. The first year of the IRSS programme has been initiated, with funding support for the first year of operation being provided with the generous support of the European Union. The secretariat has initiated the following steps toward implementation of the "Help Desk":

31. The following tools will be available to contracting parties by March 2011:

- A searchable database of phytosanitary projects and activities;
- a roster of phytosanitary experts;
- availability of a limited number of phytosanitary technical resources such as manuals, SOPs and training kits;
- a table of donors and criteria for funding

32. An IRSS page is also under development which will house the help desk. An additional webpage is being created to house a number of resources such as the tools indicated above plus media library and advocacy tools. The IPPC secretariat welcomes the expression of interest of the European Commission to fund an additional two years of the IRSS programme beyond 2011.

VII. RESOURCE MOBILIZATION

33. The secretariat would like to thank all those contracting parties that have contributed to the 2011 budget of the IPPC. Although the IPPC work programme has been significantly reduced due to resource constraints, support from some member countries has been encouraging to ensure the core work programme could be delivered. To this end we wish to thank Australia, European Union, Denmark, the Republic of Korea and the United States of America for their financial contributions in 2011, that were well supported by many in-kind contributions from a number of other countries. A full list of in-kind support is made available to CPM each year.

34. The sustainability of IPPC secretariat, and hence the work programme of the IPPC, is being addressed as a matter of urgency. The current resource allocation (financial and human resources) is simply not sustainable. Therefore, the Secretary is giving this his highest priority and has begun discussions with the governing body and some partners to improve the situation in the foreseeable future.

35. The draft IPPC Resource Mobilization Strategy, which will be one of the four strategies on primary focus areas, was discussed in the annual meeting of the CPM Informal Working Group on Strategic Planning and Technical Assistance (SPTA) in October 2011. The draft will be revised and presented to the CPM7 in March 2012.

36. The discussions in the SPTA meeting mentioned above also highlighted that the budget for 2012 would need similar or significant additional extra-budgetary resources as 2011. This includes any extra FAO contributions that may be anticipated. It is essential the IPPC receive regular and predictable contributions to allow appropriate planning and delivery of the core IPPC work programme i.e. to provide sustainability to the programme.

37. As the year 2012 will be the 60th Anniversary of the IPPC, the IPPC secretariat has started planning the celebration activities but within the very limited resources currently available. This will be announced soon for any offers from countries, organizations and other stakeholders to support such activities.

38. The secretariat would welcome any discussions with contracting parties or partner organizations that could provide solutions to the current challenges, particularly in the medium to long term.

VIII. IMPORTANT MILESTONE FOR ELECTRONIC CERTIFICATION IN THE IPPC (EPHYTO)

39. An Open-Ended Working Group (OEWG) on Electronic Certification was held in Seoul, Republic of Korea, from 7 to 10 June 2011. The meeting was attended by participants from 27 countries and two regional plant protection organizations.

40. An increasing number of countries are converting from paper systems to electronic certification systems. A global ePhyto standard will greatly facilitate the inter-governmental exchange of phytosanitary certificates with improved security and often large gains in efficiencies. Some background information can be found on the IPPC website (https://www.ippc.int/index.php?id=1110892&no_cache=1).

41. For most countries this plant health initiative will be integrated into their animal health and food safety electronic certifications systems. Participants agreed to work together to ultimately agree on a global standard for electronic phytosanitary certification based on ISPM 12, probably to be called ePhyto. Three working groups have been established to progress this work with the objectives of having a draft available by the end of 2011 for field testing.

INFORMATION ON ACTIVITIES

Communication from the Codex Alimentarius Commission (Codex)

The following communication, received on 19 October 2011, is being circulated at the request of the Codex secretariat.

I. CODEX SESSIONS SINCE THE LAST MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE (30 JUNE – 1 JULY 2011)

- Codex Alimentarius Commission (Geneva, Switzerland, 4-9 July 2011)

1. In particular, the SPS Committee may wish to note the following:

The 34th Session of the Codex Alimentarius Commission, among others:

- adopted 31 new or revised Codex standards or related texts and many new or revised provisions for additives and MRLs for pesticides (see Appendix I), and approved a number of new work proposals (see Appendix II);
- considered the implementation of the Strategic Plan 2008-2013 of the Codex Alimentarius Commission and was informed of the preparation of the Strategic Plan 2014-2018 in the Executive Committee;
- Made several recommendations to respond to the Codex Trust Fund Mid-term Review;
- Elected as Chairperson Mr Sanjay Dave (India), as Vice-Chairpersons Mr Samuel Godefroy (Canada), Mrs Awilo Ochieng Pernet (Switzerland), and Professor Samuel Sefa Dedeh (Ghana); as Members of the Executive Committee elected on a geographical basis: Australia, China, France, Jamaica, Kenya, Tunisia, and United States of America; and appointed as regional Coordinators: Cameroon (Africa), Japan (Asia), Poland (Europe), Costa Rica (Latin America and the Caribbean), Lebanon (Near East), Papua New Guinea (North America and South-West Pacific).

2. The full report of the meeting is available at: <http://www.codexalimentarius.net> or at ftp://ftp.fao.org/codex/Reports_2011/REP11_CACe.pdf.

II. FORTHCOMING CODEX MEETINGS

- Codex Committee on Food Import and Export Inspection and Certification Systems (Cairns, Australia, 17-21 October 2011);

- Codex Committee on Nutrition and Foods for Special Dietary Uses (Bad Soden am Taunus, Germany, 14-18 November 2011);
- Codex Committee on Food Hygiene (Miami, United States of America, 5-9 December 2011);
- Executive Committee of the Codex Alimentarius Commission (7-10 February 2012);
- Task Force on Animal Feeding (Bern, Switzerland, 20-24 February 2012).

3. The Codex Committee on Food Import and Export Inspection and Certification Systems will proceed with its work on the development of Proposed Draft Principles and Guidelines for National Food Control Systems and will consider a discussion paper on further guidance regarding attestation in *Generic Model Official Certificates* and other proposals for new work.

4. The Codex Committee on Food Hygiene will consider Proposed Draft Guidelines on the Application of General Principles of Food Hygiene to the Control of Viruses, the Proposed Draft Annex on Melons to the Code of Hygienic Practice for Fresh Fruits and Vegetables, the Proposed Draft Revision of the Principles for the Establishment and Application of Microbiological Criteria, and Proposed Draft Guidelines for Control of Specific Zoonotic Parasites in Meat.

5. The ad hoc Intergovernmental Task Force on Animal Feeding will consider the Proposed Draft Guidelines on Application of Risk Assessment for Feed, how to apply the existing Codex risk assessment methodologies to the various types of hazards related to contaminants/residues in feed ingredients, including feed additives used in feedingstuffs, and a Proposed Draft Prioritised List of Hazards in Feed.

APPENDIX I

**LISTS OF STANDARDS AND RELATED TEXTS ADOPTED BY THE 34TH SESSION OF
THE CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION**

Part 1 – Standards and Related Texts Adopted at Step 8

Standards and Related Texts	Reference
MRLs for narasin (pig tissues) and tilmicosin (chicken and turkey tissues)	REP11/RVDF, Appendix III
Guidelines for Risk Analysis of Foodborne Antimicrobial Resistance	REP11/AMR, Appendix II
Annex to the Guidelines on Nutrition Labelling: General Principles for Establishing Nutrient Reference Values of Vitamins and Minerals for General Population	REP11/NFSDU, Appendix II
Regional Standard for Edible Sago Flour	REP11/ASIA, Appendix II
Amendment to the Standard for Named Vegetable Oils: Inclusion of Palm Kernel Olein and Palm Kernel Stearin	REP11/FO, Appendix II
Code of Practice for the Storage and Transport of Edible Fats and Oils in Bulk: Criteria to Assess the Acceptability of Substances for Inclusion in a List of Acceptable Previous Cargoes	REP11/FO, Appendix III
Code of Practice for the Storage and Transport of Edible Fats and Oils in Bulk: List of Acceptable Previous Cargoes	REP11/FO, Appendix IV
Revised Guidelines on Measurement Uncertainty	REP11/MAS, Appendix II
Food Additive Provisions of the <i>General Standard for Food Additives</i> (GSFA)	REP11/FA, Appendix III
Maximum Residue Limits for Pesticides	REP11/PR, Appendix II
Standard for Fish Sauce	REP11/FFP, Appendix III
Standard for Tree Tomatoes	REP11/FFV, Appendix III
Revision of the Guidelines on Nutrition Labelling: List of Nutrients that are always declared on a Voluntary or Mandatory Basis	REP11/FL, Appendix II

Part 2 – Standards and Related Texts Adopted at Step 5/8 (with omission of Step 6 and 7)

Standards and Related Texts	Reference
Standard for Desiccated Coconut (revision of CODEX STAN 177-1991)	REP11/PFV, Appendix III
Annex on Certain Mushrooms (revision of CODEX STAN 55-1981)(<i>For inclusion in the Codex Standard for Certain Canned Vegetables</i>)	REP11/PFV, Appendix IV
Standard for Canned Bamboo Shoots (revision of CODEX STAN 241-2003)	REP11/PFV, Appendix V
Regional Standard for Culantro Coyote	REP11/LAC, Appendix II
Regional Standard for Lucuma	REP11/LAC, Appendix III
Regional Standard for Chilli Sauce	REP11/ASIA, Appendix III
Guideline for the Control of <i>Campylobacter</i> and <i>Salmonella</i> spp in Chicken Meat	REP11/FH, Appendix III
Revision of the Recommended International Code of Hygienic Practice for Collecting, Processing and Marketing of Natural Mineral Waters (CAC/RCP 33-1985)	REP11/FH, Appendix V
Code of Practice for the Storage and Transport of Edible Fats and Oils in Bulk: List of Acceptable Previous Cargoes	REP11/FO, Appendix V
Food Additive Provisions of the <i>General Standard for Food Additives</i> (GSFA)	REP11/FA, Appendix III
Revision of the Food Category System of the GSFA (food categories 05.1, 05.2 and 05.4)	REP11/FA, Appendix VIII
Amendments to the <i>International Numbering System for Food Additives</i>	REP11/FA, Appendix XII
Specifications for the Identity and Purity of Food Additives	REP11/FA, Appendix XIII
Code of Practice for the Prevention and Reduction of Ethyl Carbamate Contamination in Stone Fruit Distillates	REP11/CF, Appendix II
Maximum Residue Limits for Pesticides	REP11/PR, Appendix III
Revision of the Guidelines on the Estimation of Uncertainty of Results for the Determination of Pesticide Residues (Annex to CAC/GL 59-2006)	REP11/PR, Appendix X
Code of Practice for Fish and Fishery Products (section on smoked fish and relevant definitions)	REP11/FFP, Appendix V
Amendment to Section 3.4.5.1 Water of the Code of Practice for Fish and Fishery Products	REP11/FFP, Appendix VI
Amendment to the Standard for Quick Frozen Fish Sticks	REP11/FFP, Appendix XI
Standard for Chilli Peppers	REP11/FFV, Appendix IV
Compilation of Codex Texts Relevant to Labelling of Foods Derived from Modern Biotechnology	REP11/FL, Appendix III
Regional Standard for Harissa	REP11/NEA, Appendix III
Regional Standard for Halwa tehenia	REP11/NEA, Appendix IV

Part 3 – Other Standards and Related Texts Submitted for Adoption

Standards and Related Texts	Reference
Amendments to Food Additive Provisions for Antioxidants and Preservatives of Food Category 04.1.2.2 "dried fruits" of the GSFA	REP11/FA, para. 26
Revision of Section 4 "Carry-over of Food Additives" into food of the Preamble to the GSFA	REP11/FA, Appendix IX
Amendment to "Explanatory notes on the lay-out of the INS" Section 1 of the <i>Class Names and International Numbering System for Food Additives</i> (CAC/GL 36-1989)	REP11/FA, para. 148
Methods of Analysis in Codex Standards at different steps	REP11/MAS, Appendix III
Amendment to the Preamble of Section 6, Aquaculture Products of the Code of Practice for Fish and Fishery Products	REP11/FFP, Appendix II

APPENDIX II

**LIST OF DRAFT STANDARDS AND RELATED TEXTS APPROVED AS NEW WORK BY
THE 34TH SESSION OF THE CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMISSION**

Responsible Body	Standard and Related Texts	Reference	Job Code
CCRVDF	Performance criteria for multi-residue analytical methods for veterinary drug residue analyses (Appendix to the <i>Guidelines for the design and implementation of national regulatory food safety assurance programmes associated with the use of veterinary drugs in food producing animals</i> (CAC/GL 71-2009))	REP11/RVDF, Appendix V	N01-2011
CCRVDF	Priority list of veterinary drugs for evaluation or re-evaluation by JECFA	REP11/RVDF, Appendix VI	ongoing
CCEURO	Regional Standard for Fresh Fungus "Chanterelle"	REP11/EURO, Appendix II	N02-2011
CCEURO	Regional Standard for Ayran	REP11/EURO, Appendix III	N03-2011
CCNFSDU	Inclusion of a New Part B for Underweight Children in the <i>Standard for Processed Cereal-Based Foods for Infants and Young Children</i> (CODEX STAN 74-1981)	REP11/NFSDU, Appendix V	N04-2011
CCASIA	Regional Standard for Tempe	REP11/ASIA, Appendix IV	N05-2011
CCFFV CCASIA	(Regional) Standard for Durian	REP11/ASIA, Appendix V	N06-2011
CCFH	Guidelines for Control of Specific Zoonotic Parasites in Meat: <i>Trichinella spiralis</i> and <i>Cysticercus bovis</i>	REP11/FH, Appendix VI	N07-2011
CCFH	Annex on Melons to the <i>Code of Hygienic Practice for Fresh Fruits and Vegetables</i> (CAC/RCP 53-2003)	REP11/FH, Appendix VII	N08-2011
CCFO	Standard for Fish Oils	REP11/FO, Appendix VI	N09-2011
CCFO	Amendment to parameters for rice bran oil in the <i>Standard for Named Vegetable Oils</i>	REP11/FO, Appendix VII	N10-2011
CCMAS	Principles for the Use of Sampling and Testing in International Food Trade	REP11/MAS, Appendix IV	N11-2011
CCCF	Maximum Levels for Arsenic in Rice	REP11/CF, Appendix IV	N12-2011
CCS	Standard for "Panela"	REP11/LAC, para. 135	N13-2011

Responsible Body	Standard and Related Texts	Reference	Job Code
CCASIA	Regional Standard for Laver Products	REP11/ASIA, para. 144 and REP 11/FFP, para. 176	N14-2011
CCFFP	Criteria/Parameters for screening methods for biotoxins in the Standard for Live and Raw Bivalve Molluscs	REP11/FFP, paras 119-121	N15-2011
CCFFP	Code of Practice for Fish and Fishery Products (section on sturgeon cavier)	REP11/FFP para. 178	N16-2011
CCFFV	Standard for Golden Passion Fruit (problem in Spanish text)	REP11/FFV para. 143	N17-2011
CCFL	Inclusion of new substances into the Guidelines for the Production, Processing, Labelling and Marketing of Organically Produced Foods	REP11/FL, Appendix VI	N18-2011
CCPFV	Standard for Certain Quick Frozen Vegetables	REP11/PFV, paras 116-117	N19-2011
CCPFV	Standard for Certain Canned Fruits	REP11/PFV, paras 116-117	N20-2011
CCPR	Priority List for the Establishment of MRLs for Pesticides	REP11/PR, Appendix XI	Ongoing
CCNEA	Regional Standard for Doogh	REP11/NEA, paras 80-82	N21-2011
CCMAS	Definitions and Criteria for Proprietary Methods in Codex Standards for Inclusion in the Procedural Manual	REP11/MAS, para. 78	Procedure

WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION

G/SPS/N/CHN/472
19 August 2011

(11-4143)

Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures

Original: English

NOTIFICATION

1.	Notifying Member: <u>CHINA</u> If applicable, name of local government involved:
2.	Agency responsible: Certification and Accreditation Administration of the People's Republic of China (CNCA)
3.	Products covered (provide tariff item number(s) as specified in national schedules deposited with the WTO; ICS numbers should be provided in addition, where applicable): Imported food
4.	Regions or countries likely to be affected, to the extent relevant or practicable: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> All trading partners <input type="checkbox"/> Specific regions or countries:
5.	Title of the notified document: The Provisions on the Administration of the Registration of Outside China Productive Enterprises of Imported Food Language(s): Chinese Number of pages: 6 http://members.wto.org/crnattachments/2011/sps/CHN/11_2756_00_x.pdf
6.	Description of content: According to the Food Safety Law of the People's Republic of China, the Provisions on the Administration of the Registration of Foreign Production Enterprises of Imported Foods (Order of the General Administration of Quality Supervision, Inspection and Quarantine of the People's Republic of China (AQSIQ) No. 16, 2002) was amended. Based on the original regulation, detailed descriptions on the personnel qualifications of registration assessment, the decision making of registration and the validity of registration are made.
7.	Objective and rationale: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> food safety, <input type="checkbox"/> animal health, <input type="checkbox"/> plant protection, <input type="checkbox"/> protect humans from animal/plant pest or disease, <input type="checkbox"/> protect territory from other damage from pests.
8.	Is there a relevant international standard? If so, identify the standard: <input type="checkbox"/> Codex Alimentarius Commission (e.g. title or serial number of Codex standard or related text) <input type="checkbox"/> World Organization for Animal Health (OIE) (e.g. Terrestrial or Aquatic Animal Health Code, chapter number) <input type="checkbox"/> International Plant Protection Convention (e.g. ISPM number) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> None

./.

<p>Does this proposed regulation conform to the relevant international standard? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p>If no, describe, whenever possible, how and why it deviates from the international standard:</p>	
9.	Other relevant documents and language(s) in which these are available: None
10.	Proposed date of adoption (dd/mm/yy): December 2011 Proposed date of publication (dd/mm/yy):
11.	Proposed date of entry into force: <input type="checkbox"/> Six months from date of publication, and/or (dd/mm/yy): March 2012 <input type="checkbox"/> Trade facilitating measure
12.	Final date for comments: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sixty days from the date of circulation of the notification and/or (dd/mm/yy): 18 October 2011 Agency or authority designated to handle comments: <input type="checkbox"/> National Notification Authority, <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> National Enquiry Point. Address, fax number and e-mail address (if available) of other body:
13.	Texts available from: <input type="checkbox"/> National Notification Authority, <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> National Enquiry Point. Address, fax number and e-mail address (if available) of other body:

进口食品境外生产企业注册管理规定

第一章 总则

第一条 为了加强进口食品境外食品生产企业的监督管理，根据《中华人民共和国食品安全法》及其实施条例、《中华人民共和国进出口商品检验法》及其实施条例等法律、行政法规的规定，制定本规定。

第二条 向中国输出食品的境外生产、加工、储存企业（以下简称进口食品境外生产企业）的注册及其监督管理适用本规定。

第三条 国家质量监督检验检疫总局（以下简称国家质检总局）统一管理进口食品境外生产企业注册工作。

国家认证认可监督管理委员会（以下简称国家认监委）组织实施进口食品境外生产企业的注册及其监督管理工作。

第四条 《进口食品境外生产企业注册实施目录》（以下简称《目录》）由国家认监委负责制定、调整，国家质检总局公布。

《目录》内不同产品类别的注册评审程序和技术要求，由国家认监委另行制定、发布。

第五条 《目录》内食品的境外生产企业，应当获得注册后，其产品方可进口。

第二章 注册条件与程序

第六条 进口食品境外生产企业注册条件：

(一) 企业所在国家(地区)的与注册相关的兽医服务体系、植物保护体系、公共卫生管理体系等经评估合格;

(二) 企业所在国家(地区)应当为相关动植物疫病疫情非疫区,向我国出口的食品所用动植物原料应当来自非疫区;

(三) 企业应当经所在国家(地区)相关主管当局批准并在其有效监管下,其卫生条件应当符合中国法律法规和标准规范的有关规定。

第七条 进口食品境外生产企业申请注册,应通过其所在国家(地区)主管当局或其他规定的方式向国家认监委推荐,并提交符合本办法第六条规定条件的证明性文件以及下列材料,提交的有关材料应当为中文或者英文文本:

(一) 所在国(地区)相关的动植物疫情、兽医卫生、公共卫生、植物保护、农药兽药残留、食品生产企业注册管理和卫生要求等方面的法律法规,所在国(地区)主管当局机构设置和人员情况及法律法规执行等方面的书面资料;

(二) 申请注册的境外食品生产企业名单;

(三) 所在国家(地区)主管当局对其推荐企业的检疫、卫生控制实际情况的评估答卷;

(四) 所在国家(地区)主管当局对其推荐的企业符合中国法律、法规要求的承诺;

(五) 企业的有关资料(企业注册申请书,厂区、车间、冷库的平面图,工艺流程图等)。

第八条 国家认监委应当组织相关专家或指定机构对境外食品生产企业所

在国家（地区）主管当局或其他规定方式提交的资料进行审查，并根据工作需要，组成评审组进行实地评审，评审组成员应当 2 人以上。

从事评审的人员，应当经国家认监委考核合格。

第九条 评审组应当按照《目录》中不同产品类别的评审程序和要求完成评审工作，并向国家认监委提交评审报告。

国家认监委应当按照工作程序对评审报告进行审查，做出是否注册的决定。符合注册要求的，予以注册，并书面通告境外食品生产企业所在国家（地区）的主管当局；不予注册的，应当书面通告境外食品生产企业所在国家（地区）的主管当局，并说明理由。

国家认监委应当定期统一公布获得注册的境外食品生产企业名单，并报国家质检总局。

第十条 注册有效期为 4 年。

境外食品生产企业需要延续注册的，应当在注册有效期届满前一年，通过其所在国家（地区）主管当局或其他规定的方式向国家认监委提出延续注册申请。

逾期未提出延续注册申请的，国家认监委注销对其注册，并予以公告。

第十一条 已获得注册的境外食品生产企业的注册事项发生变更时，应当通过其所在国家（地区）主管当局或其他规定的方式及时通报国家认监委，国家认监委根据具体变更情况做出相应处理，并报国家质检总局。

第十二条 已获得注册的境外食品生产企业应当在其向我国境内出口的食

品外包装上如实标注注册编号。

禁止冒用或者转让注册编号。

第三章 注册管理

第十三条 国家认监委依法对《目录》内食品的境外生产企业进行监督管理，必要时组织相关专家或指定机构进行复查。

第十四条 经复查发现已获得注册的境外食品生产企业不能持续符合注册要求的，国家认监委应当暂停其注册资格并报国家质检总局暂停进口相关产品，同时向其所在国家（地区）主管当局通报，并予以公告。

境外食品生产企业所在国家（地区）主管当局应当监督需要整改的企业在规定时间内完成整改，并向国家认监委提交书面整改报告和符合中国法律法规要求的书面承诺。经国家认监委审查合格后，方可继续向我国出口食品。

第十五条 已获得注册的境外食品生产企业有下列情形之一的，国家认监委应当撤销其注册并报国家质检总局，同时向其所在国家（地区）主管当局通报，予以公告：

（一）因境外食品生产企业的原因造成相关进口食品发生重大食品安全事故的；

（二）其产品进境检验检疫中发现不合格情况，情节严重的；

（三）经调查发现食品安全卫生管理存在重大问题，不能保证其产品安全卫生的；

（四）整改后仍不符合注册要求的；

(五) 提供虚假材料或者隐瞒有关情况的；

(六) 借用、冒用、涂改、伪造或者转让注册编号的。

第十六条 列入《目录》内的进口食品入境时，出入境检验检疫机构应当查验其是否由获得注册的企业生产，注册编号是否真实准确，经查发现不符合法定要求的，依照《中华人民共和国进出口商品检验法》等相关法律、行政法规予以处理。

第十七条 进口国家实行注册管理而未获得注册的境外食品生产企业生产的食品的，依据《中华人民共和国进出口商品检验法实施条例》第五十二条由出入境检验检疫机构责令其停止进口，没收违法所得，并处商品货值金额 10% 以上 50% 以下罚款。

第四章 附则

第十八条 国际组织或者向我国境内出口食品的国家（地区）主管当局发布疫情通告，或者产品在进境检验检疫中发现疫情、公共卫生失控等严重问题的，国家质检总局公告暂停进口该国家（地区）相关食品期间，国家认监委不予接受该国家（地区）主管当局推荐其相关食品生产企业注册。

第十九条 境外食品生产企业所在国家（地区）主管当局应当协助国家认监委委派的评审组完成实地评审和复查工作。

第二十条 香港特别行政区、澳门特别行政区和台湾地区向中国大陆出口《目录》内食品的生产、加工、储存企业的注册管理，参照本规定执行。

第二十一条 本规定中所在国家（地区）主管当局包括境外食品生产企业所

在国家（地区）负责相关食品安全卫生的官方部门、官方授权机构及行业组织等。

第二十二条 本规定由国家质量监督检验检疫总局负责解释。

第二十三条 本规定自 2012 年 3 月 1 日起施行。原国家质量监督检验检疫总局 2002 年 3 月 14 日公布的《进口食品国外生产企业注册管理规定》同时废止。

Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures

**OVERVIEW REGARDING THE LEVEL OF IMPLEMENTATION OF THE
TRANSPARENCY PROVISIONS OF THE SPS AGREEMENT**

Note by the Secretariat¹

Revision

I. INTRODUCTION

1. In October 2007, the Secretariat circulated a background document (G/SPS/GEN/804) providing an overview regarding the level of implementation of the transparency provisions of the SPS Agreement. This document was intended to assist Members in their deliberations during the special workshop on transparency held in October 2007 and also during the Committee's discussions under the agenda item on transparency. As one of the recommendations of the workshop on transparency was for the Secretariat to circulate such an overview on a regular basis, the Secretariat has prepared this fourth and updated document.²

2. The document provides an overview regarding the level of implementation of the transparency obligations found in the SPS Agreement (Article 7 and Annex B) and of the Committee's Recommended Procedures for Implementing the Transparency Obligations of the SPS Agreement (G/SPS/7/Rev.3). It provides information in areas which the Secretariat is in a position to track (such as designation of Enquiry Points/Notification Authorities, circulation of notifications) but does not include those where the Secretariat is not directly involved (such as provision of comments on specific notifications).

3. In preparing this overview, the Secretariat has largely relied on the SPS Information Management System (SPS IMS), the public version of which was launched and presented in October 2007 during the transparency workshop.³ While some historical data on notifications dating back to 1995 has been retrieved from various internal sources and incorporated into the SPS IMS, some of the more detailed analysis has only been possible as of July 2007, when the SPS IMS became operational. Most of the analysis contained in this document can be undertaken and updated directly by Members or other interested parties as the underlying data is publicly available and searchable through the SPS IMS.

4. At its meeting of April 2008, the SPS Committee adopted the revised Recommended Procedures for Implementing the Transparency Obligations of the SPS Agreement (G/SPS/7/Rev.3, hereafter the "2008 Transparency Procedures"), which took effect on 1 December 2008.⁴ Compared

¹ This document has been prepared under the Secretariat's own responsibility and is without prejudice to the positions of Members or to their rights or obligations under the WTO.

² See G/SPS/R/47, para.44 for the recommendations arising from the 2007 workshop on transparency.

³ <http://spsims.wto.org>

⁴ See also footnote 4 of G/SPS/7/Rev.3 requesting the Secretariat to provide an annual report on the level of implementation of the transparency provisions of the SPS Agreement and of the recommended transparency procedures.

to the earlier version of the transparency procedures, which had been adopted by the Committee in 2002, the 2008 Transparency Procedures include revised notification formats which aim to facilitate the provision of clearer and more specific information regarding new or modified SPS measures by Members, e.g. regarding conformity with international standards, comment periods, and the period between the publication and entry into force of new regulations.

5. While more information is available with the new formats, there is still room for improvement regarding the actual amount and quality of information provided by Members in the various notification formats. During 2011, a procedure for the on-line submission of notifications by Members was introduced, based on the new formats. The SPS Notification Submission System (NSS) should assist Members to be more precise in their notifications, and speed up the processing and circulation of notifications to all Members.⁵

II. DESIGNATION OF NOTIFICATION AUTHORITIES AND ENQUIRY POINTS

6. Annex B, paragraph 10, of the SPS Agreement obliges Members to designate a single central government authority as responsible for the implementation of notification procedures. This agency is also referred to as the "SPS Notification Authority". As of 30 September 2011, 140 WTO Members out of 153, i.e. two more than last year, had designated an "SPS Notification Authority".⁶ Those which have not include seven least developed countries (LDCs) and six developing countries.⁷

7. Annex B, paragraph 3, of the SPS Agreement requires that each Member establish an Enquiry Point responsible for the provision of answers to all reasonable questions and of relevant documents. As of 30 September 2011, 147 WTO Members out of 153, i.e. one more than the previous year, had provided the WTO with the contact information of their Enquiry Point.⁸ Those which have not include four LDCs and two developing countries.⁹

III. SUBMISSION OF NOTIFICATIONS

8. Under the SPS Agreement, notifications are used to inform other Members about new or changed regulations that may significantly affect trade. Annex B, paragraphs 5 to 8, as well as the 2008 Transparency Procedures, elaborate on the notification procedures Members are to follow. For ease of reference, the specific sub-topics highlighted below follow the order of items that are contained in the regular and emergency notification formats.

Types of notifications

9. The two main types of notifications are regular notifications and emergency notifications. In addition, addenda, corrigenda, revisions or supplements can be issued subsequent to an original regular or emergency notification.¹⁰ An addendum is used to provide additional information or changes to an original notification, for example if the products covered by the proposed regulation has

⁵ See para. 46 for more information.

⁶ The two Members are: Lesotho and Maldives.

⁷ The categories of level of development rely on WTO working definitions as identified in the WTO's Integrated Database (IDB) for analytical purposes. They can be consulted through the SPS IMS by clicking on "definitions of groups" on the left-hand side menu bar. The most up-to-date information on Members' notification authorities can be accessed through the SPS IMS by clicking on "Enquiry Points/Notification Authorities" on the left-hand side menu bar.

⁸ The Members is: Togo.

⁹ The most up-to-date information on Members' Enquiry Points can be accessed through the SPS IMS by clicking on "Enquiry Points/Notification Authorities" on the left-hand side menu bar.

¹⁰ See the Recommended Procedures for Implementing the Transparency Obligations of the SPS Agreement (G/SPS/7/Rev.3) for further elaboration on the different types of notifications.

been modified or if the comment period has been extended. A corrigendum is used to correct an error in an original notification such as an incorrect address detail. A revision is used to replace an existing notification, for example if a notified draft regulation was substantially redrafted or if a notification contained a large number of errors.

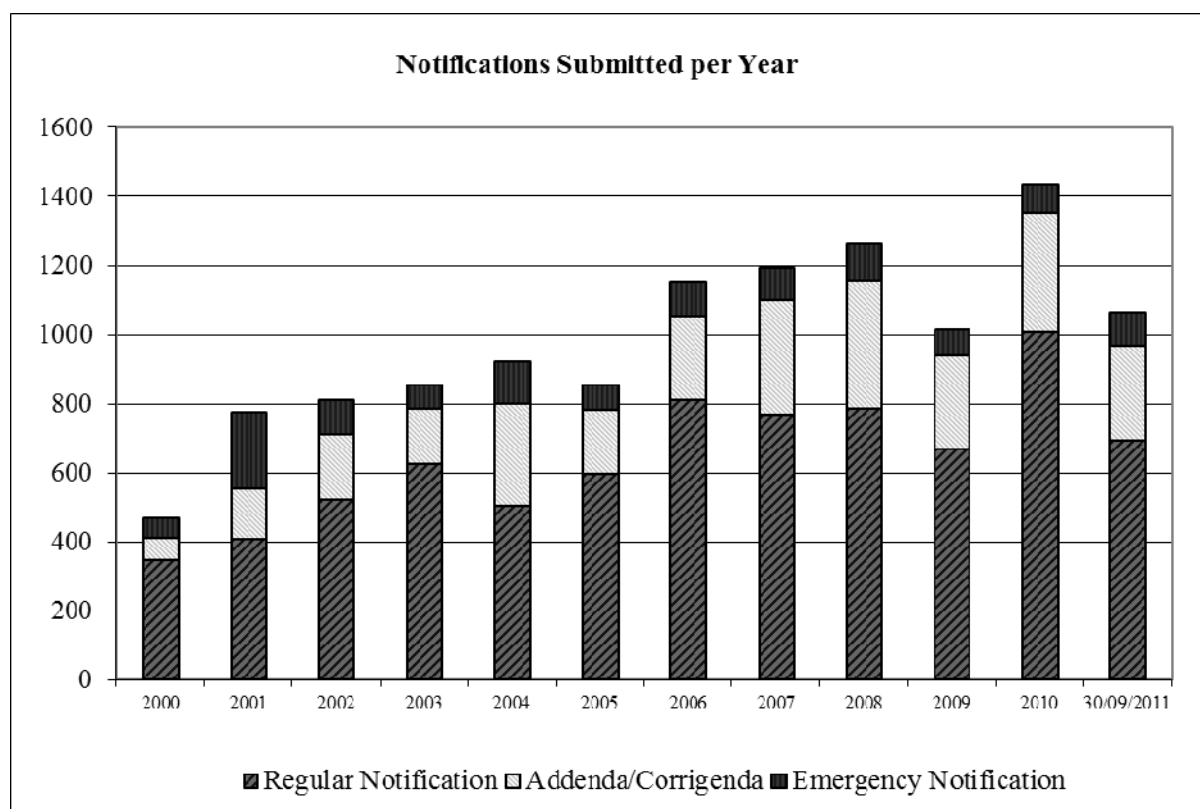
10. As of 30 September 2011, Members had submitted 9,021 regular notifications, 1,345 emergency notifications, and 2,980 addenda and corrigenda to regular and emergency notifications.

11. In April 2004, the Secretariat established a mechanism for Members to inform each other of the availability of unofficial translations of notified SPS measures into one of the official languages of the WTO. These are submitted in the form of supplements to the original notification. As of 30 September 2011, 14 supplement notifications had been circulated. Only two have been submitted in 2011. It is interesting to note that the identical mechanism for sharing translations of notified TBT regulations, which was launched in January 2008, has already resulted in over 233 supplement notifications, although only 13 supplement notifications were submitted this year. It is not clear why Members are submitting so few supplement notifications in the SPS area.

12. In addition, in June 2002 the SPS Committee adopted a special format and recommended procedures for the notification of determination of the recognition of equivalence of sanitary or phytosanitary measures. As of 30 September 2011, two equivalence notifications were circulated, one from Panama in 2007 and another from the Dominican Republic in 2008.

13. Considering all types of notifications together, a total of 13,349 notifications were submitted to the WTO from 1 January 1995 to 30 September 2011. As can be seen in Figure 1, there has been an upward trend in the number of notifications over the years, with the total number of notifications reaching a peak of 1,436 in the year 2010.

Figure 1



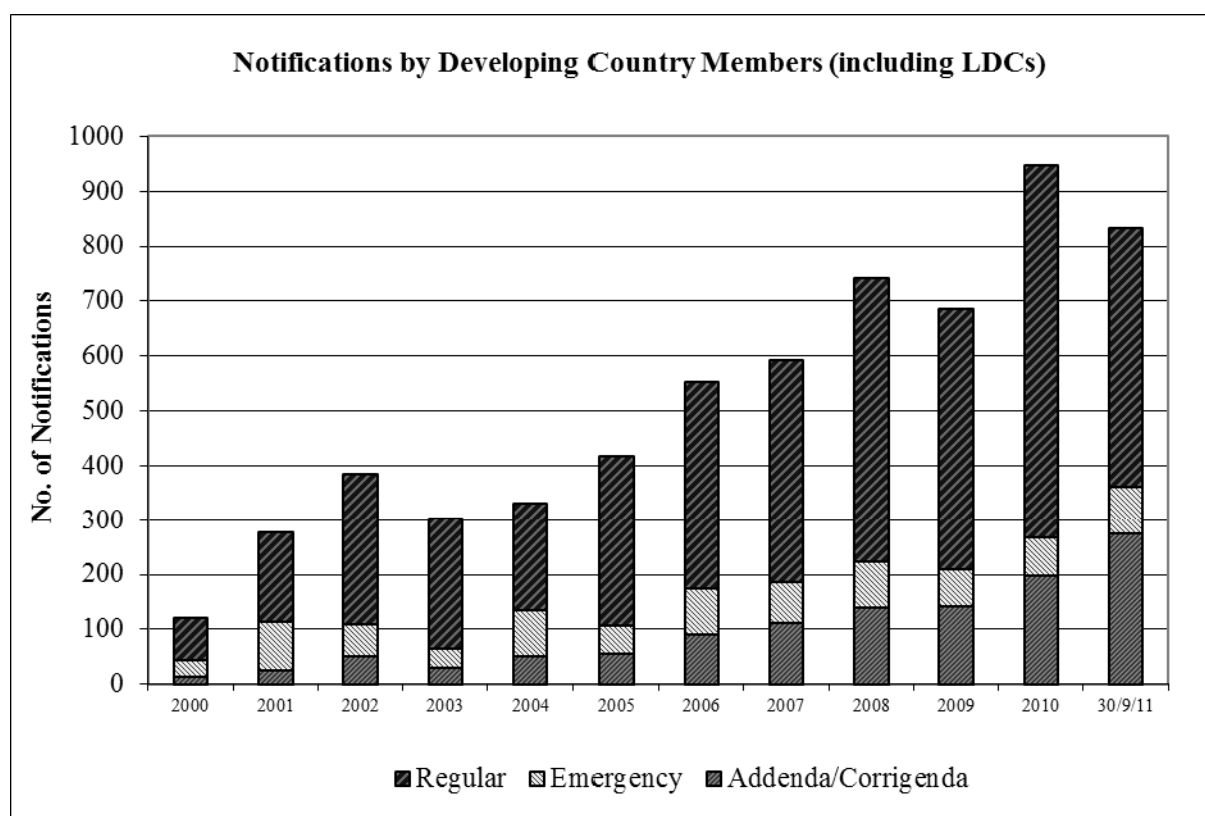
14. While the increase in notifications could be regarded as a sign of enhanced transparency, it should be kept in mind that these statistics on notifications do not necessarily provide an indication of the extent to which new or changed SPS measures are indeed being notified to the WTO.

Notifying Members

15. As of 30 September 2011, 102 Members out of 153 (67 per cent) had submitted at least one notification to the WTO. Members which have not submitted any notification so far include 19 developing countries, 21 LDCs, and one developed country. In addition, a number of EU member States have not submitted notifications: however, most SPS measures are notified by the European Union on behalf of all its member States.¹¹

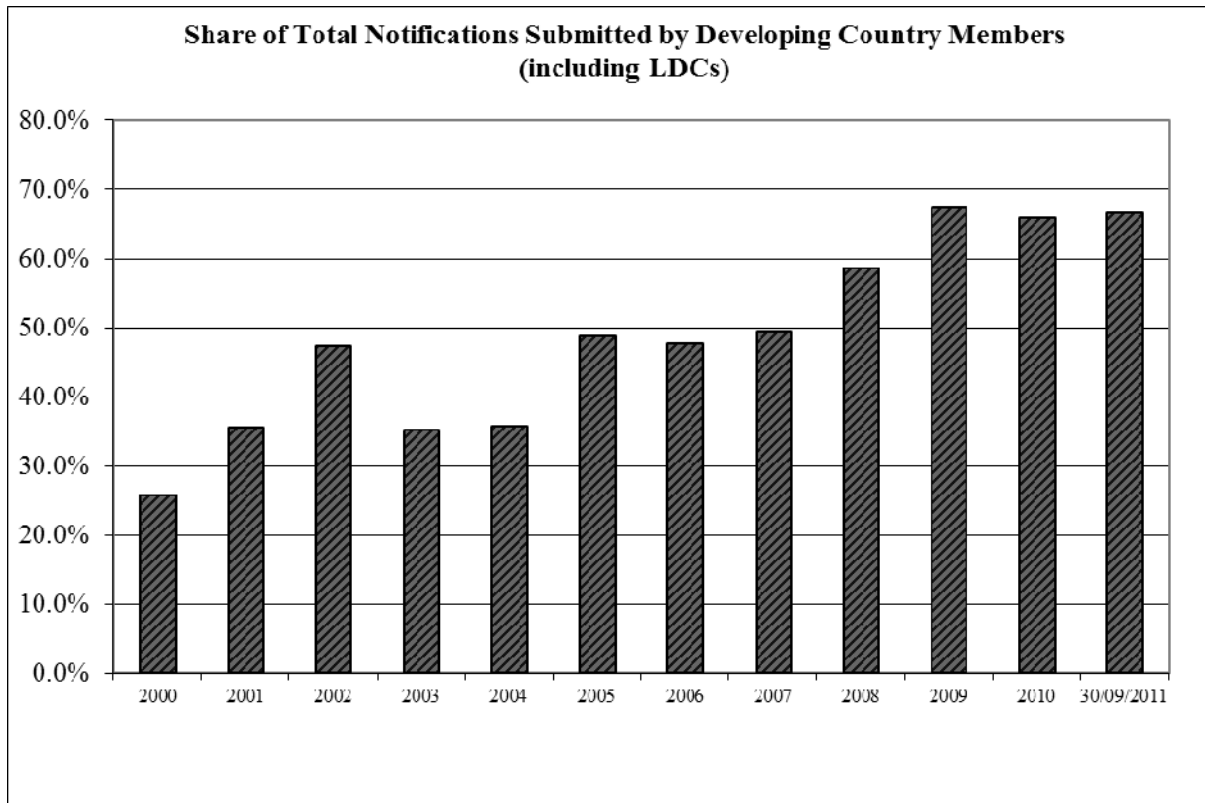
16. As can be seen in Figure 2, there has been a steady increase in the number notifications from developing country Members (which include LDCs) over the years. Not only has the number of notifications been growing, but also the share of total notifications from developing country Members (see Figure 3) with a peak of over 67 per cent in the year 2009. Compared to the same period of time last year, the share of notifications from developing countries has slightly decreased from 68.4 to 67 per cent, as well as the share from LDCs from 1.2 to 0.1 per cent.

Figure 2



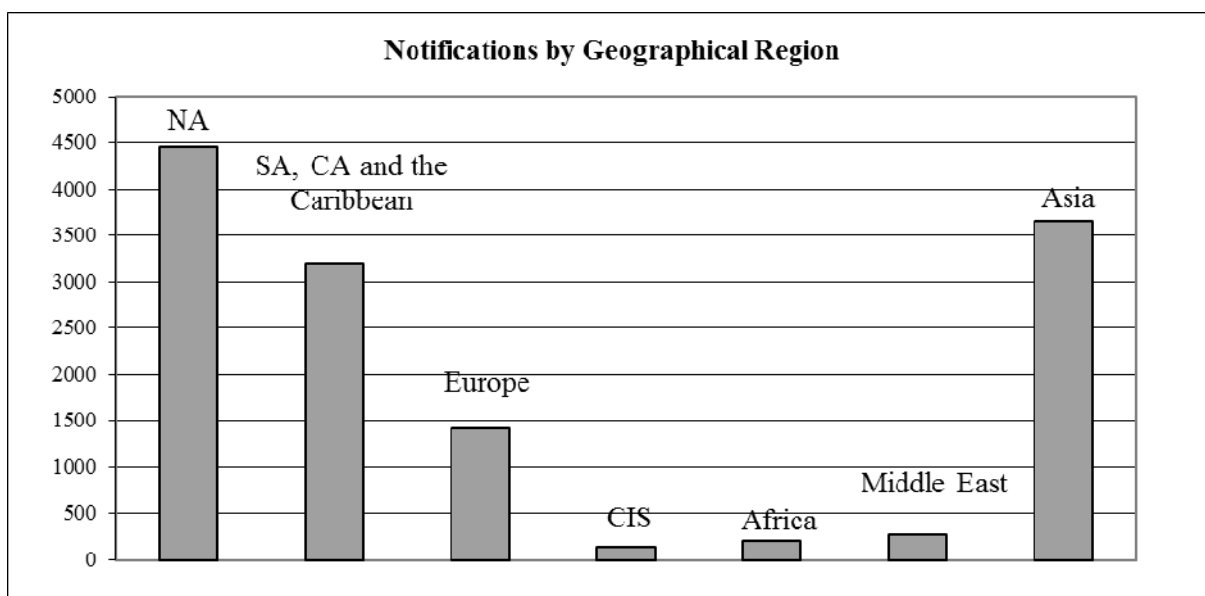
¹¹ See G/SPS/GEN/456 for notification procedures for the European Union and its member States.

Figure 3



17. Looking at the geographic regions from which the notifications originate, Figure 4 shows that the majority of notifications come from the North America region, followed by Asia, and then South and Central America and the Caribbean.¹²

Figure 4



¹² The geographical groupings used rely on WTO working definitions as identified in the Integrated Database (IDB) for analytical purposes. The same groupings are used in the WTO Annual Reports. They can be consulted through the SPS IMS by clicking on "definitions of groups" on the left-hand side menu bar.

18. The Members which have submitted the greatest number of notifications (regular and emergency) as of 30 September 2011, are listed in Table 1, while the Members that have submitted the greatest number of notifications in the past year (1 October 2010 to 30 September 2011) are listed in Table 2:

Table 1. Members which have submitted the most notifications since 1995

Regular Notifications			Emergency Notifications		
Member	No.	Share of Total	Member	No.	Share of Total
United States	2192	25.1%	Albania	125	9.4%
Brazil	775	8.9%	Philippines	114	8.6%
China	592	6.8%	New Zealand	102	7.7%
Canada	567	6.5%	United States	84	6.3%
Korea, Republic of	378	4.3%	Colombia	73	5.5%
European Union	370	4.2%	Peru	61	4.6%
New Zealand	365	4.2%	Ukraine	56	4.2%
Chile	346	4.0%	European Union	49	3.7%
Peru	337	3.9%	Thailand	40	3.0%
Japan	269	3.1%	Mexico	36	2.7%
Australia	254	2.9%	Canada	29	2.2%
Taipei, Chinese	248	2.8%	Chile	27	2.0%
Mexico	192	2.2%	China	27	2.0%
Thailand	174	2.0%	Kenya	27	2.0%
Colombia	159	1.8%	Latvia	24	1.8%
Argentina	137	1.6%	Australia	24	1.8%
Bahrain, Kingdom of	110	1.3%	Korea, Republic of	22	1.7%
Costa Rica	98	1.1%	Singapore	19	1.4%
Philippines	92	1.1%	Argentina	19	1.4%
El Salvador	90	1.0%	Jordan	17	1.3%

**Table 2. Members which have submitted the most notifications in the past year
(1 October 2010 –30 September 2011)**

Regular Notifications			Emergency Notifications		
Member	No.	Share of Total	Member	No.	Share of Total
United States	175	18.5%	Ukraine	30	26.3%
China	161	17.1%	Colombia	15	13.2%
Brazil	114	12.1%	Philippines	12	10.5%
Canada	83	8.8%	Albania	10	8.8%
Peru	44	4.7%	United States	8	7.0%
Chile	36	3.8%	Kingdom of Saudi Arabia	6	5.3%
Taipei, Chinese	28	3.0%	China	5	4.4%
European Union	23	2.4%	Thailand	5	4.4%
Japan	23	2.4%	Chinese Taipei	4	3.5%
Bahrain, Kingdom of	22	2.3%	Chile	3	2.6%
Australia	21	2.2%	Bahrain, Kingdom of	2	1.8%
New Zealand	20	2.1%	Brazil	2	1.8%

Products covered

19. In accordance with paragraphs 5 and 6 of Annex B of the SPS Agreement and the 2008 Transparency Procedures, Members are required to identify the products to be covered by a new or changed SPS measure and should provide the relevant HS codes. Most Members have indicated they would welcome the provision of these codes by their trading partners.¹³

20. Since 1995 the WTO's Central Registry of Notifications (CRN) has been assigning, to the extent possible, the relevant HS codes for all notifications.¹⁴

21. While being only indicative, Table 3 shows the products, at the two-digit level of HS codes, that are most often covered by regular and emergency notifications.

Table 3. HS Codes assigned to notifications

Regular notifications		
HS Code	Description	Share of total
(02)	meat and edible meat offal	22.0%
(01)	live animals	13.8%
(08)	edible fruit and nuts; peel of citrus fruit or melons	8.0%
(04)	dairy produce; birds' eggs; natural honey; edible products of animal origin, not elsewhere specified or included	7.4%
(07)	edible vegetables and certain roots and tubers	6.2%

¹³ See the Analysis of Replies to the Questionnaire on the Operation of Enquiry Points and National Notification Authorities, (G/SPS/GEN/751/Rev.1, paras. 11 and 18) for further elaboration on this point.

¹⁴ This information is now available in the SPS IMS.

Emergency notifications		
HS Code	Description	Share of total
(02)	meat and edible meat offal	31.9%
(01)	live animals	30.1%
(04)	dairy produce; birds' eggs; natural honey; edible products of animal origin, not elsewhere specified or included	10.5%
(05)	Products of animal origin, not elsewhere specified or included	7.9%
(23)	residues and waste from the food industries; prepared animal and animal fodder	5.4%

Regions/countries affected

22. The Transparency Procedures call on Members to identify the regions or countries which are most likely to be affected by the measure being notified. An assessment of notifications submitted in the period between 1 July 2007 and 1 October 2011 indicate that around 13 per cent of regular notifications have identified a specific group of countries or a region, while the remaining contain general references such as "all trading partners", "all countries", etc. In contrast, almost 54 per cent of emergency notifications have identified a specific group of countries or a region. During this same period, around 31 per cent of all regular and emergency notifications have left this box blank.

23. The 2008 Transparency Procedures include a modified data entry option for this item whereby Members are invited to either select the tick box for "all trading partners" or provide information on specific regions or countries likely to be affected. In the year between 1 July 2010 and 30 September 2011, around 82 per cent of regular notifications have selected the tick box for "all trading partners", while the share is only roughly 11 per cent for emergency notifications. This reflects the fact that emergency actions are frequently taken in response to disease outbreaks in specific countries, territories, or regions.

24. The comprehension and work of other Members would be facilitated if more specificity were provided by notifying Members on regions or countries likely to be affected. It is understandable, however, that when submitting notifications, Members may be hesitant to specifically identify potentially affected countries or regions for fear of not accurately assessing who might be affected.

Objective and rationale

25. In accordance with paragraphs 5 and 6 of Annex B of the SPS Agreement and the 2008 Transparency Procedures, Members are also required to state the objective and rationale of proposed regulations by selecting one of the following five options: food safety, animal health, plant protection, protect humans from animal/plant pest or disease, and protect territory from other damage from pests.

26. Table 4 indicates the total number and share of each objective as cited in regular and emergency notifications. It must be noted, however, that many notifications identify more than one objective. Therefore, the table below specifies the total number of times the specific objective was assigned regardless of whether the notifications identified multiple objectives.

27. For regular notifications, the most frequently cited objective is food safety, while for emergency notifications it is animal health.

Table 4. "Objectives" of notified SPS measures in the period between 1 July 2007 - 30 September 2010

Regular Notifications		
	Notifications	Share over period
Food Safety	2,362	37.7%
Animal Health	527	8.4%
Plant Protection	1001	16.0%
Protect humans from animal / plant pest or disease	2,054	32.8%
Protect territory from other damage from pests	323	5.2%
Emergency Notifications		
	Notifications	Share over period
Food Safety	172	20.2%
Animal Health	304	35.6%
Plant Protection	79	9.3%
Protect humans from animal / plant pest or disease	235	27.6%
Protect territory from other damage from pests	63	7.4%

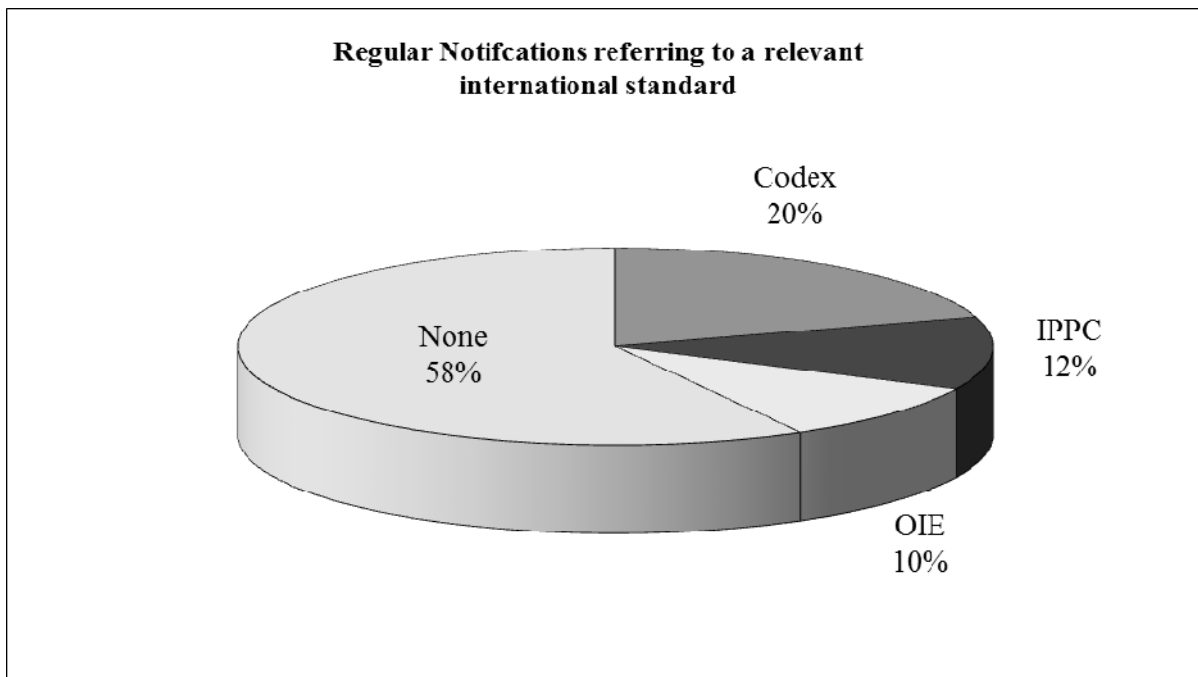
International standards, guidelines or recommendations

28. The SPS Agreement does not require Members to notify a measure if its content is substantially the same as that of an international standard adopted by Codex, IPPC, or the OIE. Nonetheless, the 2008 Transparency Procedures encourage Members to notify all regulations that are based on, conform to, or are substantially the same as an international standard, guideline or recommendation, if they are expected to have a significant impact on trade of other Members. The revised formats also seek to get more precision from Members regarding relevant standards and the conformity of the notified measure with these.

29. With respect to regular notifications circulated in more than four years from 30 June 2007 to 30 September 2011, Figure 5 indicates that in 58 per cent of the cases, Members have not identified an international standard as being relevant to the new measure being notified. Of the remaining notifications, 20 per cent have referred to Codex, 10 per cent to the OIE and 12 per cent to the IPPC.

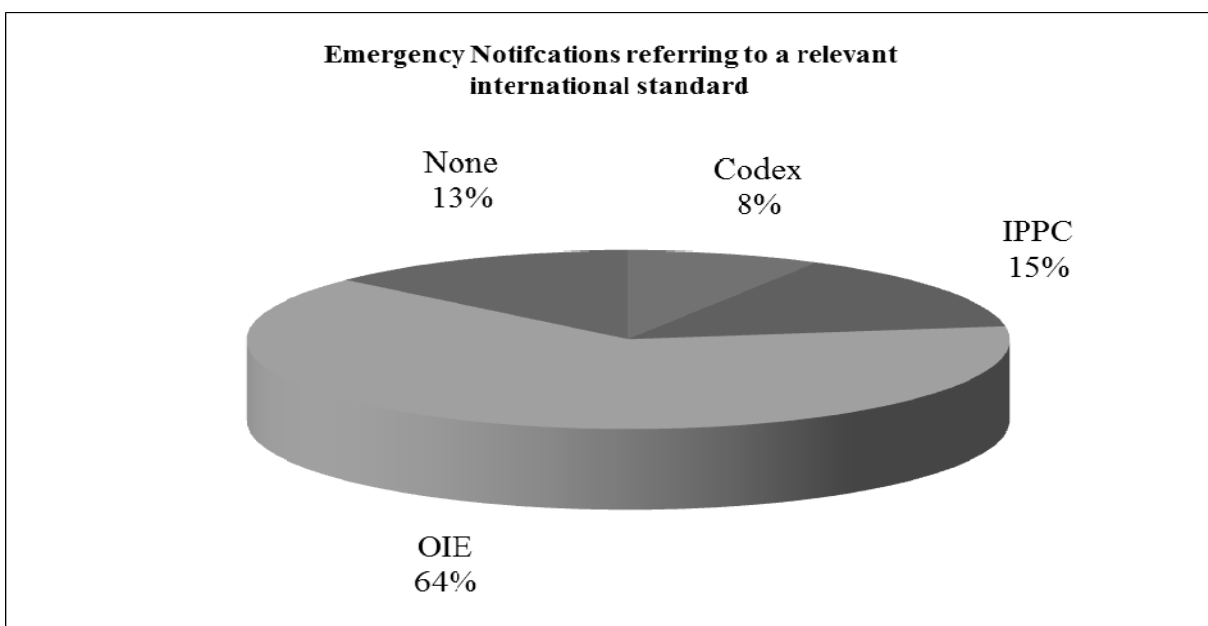
30. Figure 6 shows that for the same period, only 13 per cent of emergency notifications have not identified an international standard as being relevant to the measure being notified, while 64 per cent, 15 per cent and 8 per cent have referred to the OIE, IPPC and Codex as having a relevant international standard, respectively. It is reassuring to note that the relevant international standards address so many of the emergency situations, thus providing invaluable guidance to governments on how to protect health in the face of emergencies.

Figure 5



31. The revised notification formats include a new entry asking whether the proposed regulation conforms to the relevant international standard. During the period from 1 December 2008 to 30 September 2011, 41 per cent of regular notifications have stated that a relevant international standard from either OIE, IPPC or Codex exists regarding the measure, and of these 27 per cent have indicated that the proposed regulation conforms to that relevant international standard. For the same period, 84 per cent of emergency notifications have stated that there is a relevant international standard from either OIE, IPPC or Codex and of these, 59 per cent have indicated that the proposed regulation conforms to the relevant international standard.

Figure 6



Proposed date of adoption/publication/entry into force

32. In accordance with paragraphs 1 and 2 of Annex B of the SPS Agreement, Members are obliged to ensure that all SPS regulations which have been adopted are published promptly. Except in urgent circumstances, Members are also obliged to allow a reasonable interval between the publication of a measure and its entry into force. Paragraph 3.2 of the Doha Decision on Implementation-Related Issues and Concerns states that this interval "shall be understood to mean normally a period of not less than 6 months".¹⁵

33. The revised regular notification format contained in the 2008 Transparency Procedures includes separate fields for entering the "proposed date of publication", the "proposed date of adoption" and the "proposed date of entry into force". In addition, it includes a default checkbox for a six-month interval between the publication and entry into force of a new measure.

34. For the period from 1 July 2010 through 30 September 2011, 31 per cent of regular notifications included a specific date for adoption, 30 per cent for publication, and 29 per cent for entry into force. Thus the majority of regular notifications do not provide specific dates in these three fields. In some cases, such dates are not yet determined at the time of the notification, as the nature and extent of comments received on the proposed measure may affect the dates of adoption, publication and entry into force. During the same period, only 67 regular notifications (roughly six per cent) had selected the checkbox for a six-month interval between the publication and entry into force of a measure.

35. As provided for in the 2008 Transparency Procedures, notifying Members sometimes follow up on their original notification with an Addendum to alert Members to the adoption, publication, or entry into force of a previously notified proposed measure. During the period of 1 July 2010 to 30 September 2011, around 60 per cent of the addenda indicated the adoption, publication or entry into force of regulations as shown in Table 6.

Final date for comments

36. Annex B, paragraph 5 of the SPS Agreement provides that notifications should take place at an early stage, when amendments can still be introduced and comments taken into account. The 2008 Transparency Procedures state that a 60-day comment period should be provided with respect to regular notifications. An analysis of the notifications issued during the period from 1 July 2010 through 30 September 2011 shows that around 36 per cent of notifications have not provided a comment period (see Table 5). For those that do provide comment periods, these average 54 days when calculated as the difference between the date of circulation of the notification and the deadline or final date for comments.

37. A more detailed analysis shows that developing country Members provide a longer comment period, on average, than developed country Members (56 days compared to 50 days). This is the reverse of the situation found last year where developed countries provided longer comment periods on average. It is also important to note the significant progress in recent years for developing country Members in terms of the increase in the percentage of their notifications that provide a comment period. This figure has increased from 62 per cent for the time period analyzed in the first revision of this document (June 2007 - August 2008) to the current 76 per cent.

38. The 2008 Transparency Procedures have further elaborated on the 60-day comment period. Where domestic regulatory mechanisms allow, the 60-day comment period should normally begin with the circulation of the notification by the WTO Secretariat. The revised formats also offer a

¹⁵ WT/MIN(01)/17.

checkbox option for such a 60-day comment period to encourage Members to follow this recommendation.¹⁶ During the same period, this checkbox has been selected in about 43 per cent of notifications.

39. It should be noted that no comment period needs to be provided in the case of trade facilitating measures. The 2008 Transparency Procedures include a new tick box for specifying whether the notification concerns a trade facilitating measure. From 1 July 2010 through 30 September 2011, 23 per cent of notifications have been identified to be trade facilitating. In addition, as there is no obligation to notify measures if their content is substantially the same as that of an international standard, no comment period is expected for this category of measures.

Table 5 . Comment period provided in regular notifications (1 July 2010 - 30 September 2011)

All Members		
	No.	Share
No. of Regular Notifications	1157	-
Comment Period Not Indicated / Not Available	314	36.2%
Comment Period Ends before Distribution Date	8	0.9%
Comment Period Available	843	72.9%
Average Comment Period provided	54.04	
Developed country Members		
	No.	Share
No. of Regular Notifications	448	-
Comment Period Not Indicated / Not Available	142	16.4%
Comment Period Ends before Distribution Date	4	0.5%
Comment Period Available	306	68.3%
Average Comment Period provided	50.06	
*Out of the 112 Not indicated / Not Available: 60 were trade facilitating measures; 8 specified that comments could be submitted anytime		
Developing country Members		
	No.	Share
No. of Regular Notifications	709	-
Comment Period Not Indicated / Not Available	172	19.8%
Comment Period Ends before Distribution Date	4	0.5%
Comment Period Available	537	75.7%
Average Comment Period provided	55.98	
**Out of the 149 Not indicated / Not Available: 61 were trade facilitating measures; 14 specified that comments could be submitted anytime		

Text available from

40. While Members are obligated to notify other WTO Members of draft new or changed measures, they are not required to submit the text of the relevant regulations along with their notifications. However, Members have repeatedly raised concerns in the SPS Committee regarding

¹⁶ See G/SPS/7/Rev.3, para.13.

the difficulties of accessing the actual text of notified regulations, which are described only in summarized form in notifications. Members have also pointed out that the process of receiving the texts of regulations reduces the period actually available for providing comments. In an effort to address these concerns and facilitate access to notified draft regulations, the Secretariat launched a new facility on 1 February 2008. Members may, on a voluntary basis, provide the Secretariat with an electronic version of the text of the notified regulation as an attachment to the notification format. The submitted text is then electronically accessible to other Members through a hyperlink in the notification format.¹⁷ From 1 July 2010 through 30 June 2011, around 79 per cent of notifications have provided the full text or a summary of their notified regulations using this facility. There has been roughly a three-fold increase in the percentage of notifications including these attachments when compared to last year's 25 per cent. Members may wish to remind their notification authorities of the availability of this facility.

41. Some Members include a hyperlink to their own electronic version of the notified regulation as part of the text of the notification.

Reasons for addenda to regular and emergency notifications

42. The 2008 Transparency Procedures have also added a new feature to the addenda to regular and emergency notification formats. Members are asked to select from a number of options regarding the reason for the Addendum. Table 6 below shows the share of each option for the period from July 2010 through September 2011:

Table 6. Reasons for addenda¹⁸

Reason for addenda:	No.	Share
Modification of final date for comments	65	14.3%
Notification of adoption, publication or entry into force of regulation	271	59.7%
Modification of content and/or scope of previously notified draft regulation	45	9.9%
Withdrawal of proposed regulation	22	4.8%
Change in proposed date of adoption, publication or date of entry into force	9	2.0%
Others	42	9.3%

Notification keywords

43. With the SPS IMS, all notifications can also be categorized according to a list of approximately 70 predefined keywords, which describe issues appearing frequently in notifications. The CRN has assigned these keywords since 2003. These keywords assist searching for notifications in certain areas. The keywords which have been most frequently assigned to regular notifications, in descending order, are: human health, food safety, pesticides, plant health, maximum residue limits, animal health and food additives. For emergency notifications, the most frequent keywords in descending order are: animal health, animal diseases, regionalization, human health, food safety, zoonoses, food and mouth disease.

¹⁷ See G/SPS/7/Rev.3, para. 22 and Annex C.

¹⁸ Each notification can have multiple entries for the reasons for addenda.

IV. RECENT EFFORTS TO ENHANCE THE BENEFITS FROM A TRANSPARENT SYSTEM

44. In light of the steadily increasing volume of documents, managing the flow of notifications, coordinating at the national level, and benefiting from a transparent system has become a challenge for Members. The replies to a Questionnaire in 2007 on the Operation of Enquiry Points and National Notification Authorities indicates that this is one of the areas where Members are seeking technical assistance and guidance on best practices.¹⁹

45. There have been some recent efforts to address this issue. The public version of the SPS IMS was launched in October 2007. Its trilingual interface allows access to the most recent information on notifications as well as on Enquiry Points and National Notification Authorities. It also includes information on specific trade concerns and other SPS documents. It facilitates the conduct of searches according to specific needs/interests and also the preparation of reports/summaries which can be shared with interested stakeholders. The WTO Secretariat has provided demonstration sessions on the SPS IMS during the SPS Committee meetings and during its technical assistance programmes. It has also responded to ad hoc requests from Members and other interested parties for assistance.

46. At the March 2011 meeting, the Secretariat launched the new SPS Notification Submission System (SPS NSS) which allows National Notification Authorities to fill out and submit SPS notifications online. The SPS NSS allows for more accurate and complete notifications, and a substantial reduction in the time required for the WTO to circulate them. The system was made available to Members on 1 June 2011 upon request. Interested Members are requested to send an e-mail to the Secretariat so that their National Notification Authorities can receive their login names and access passwords. To date, 23 Members have requested and been given access to the system, and ten of these have officially submitted notifications via the SPS NSS.

47. The Secretariat has also established a mentoring mechanism which aims to bring together those individuals who are fulfilling the functions of Enquiry Points and Notification Authorities in different Members.²⁰ The objective of this voluntary procedure is to assist Members in not only implementing their obligations with respect to the transparency provisions but also in benefiting from their rights. So far 19 Members seeking mentoring assistance have been matched with nine Members offering mentoring assistance. Members offering mentoring assistance are Argentina, Australia, Chile, China, Colombia, European Communities, New Zealand, Switzerland and the United States.

48. In addition, New Zealand, with the assistance of Australia and the Secretariat, has developed a practical Manual on the operation of Enquiry Points and Notification Authorities. It includes guidance on how to prepare a notification, how to manage incoming notifications, how to alert stakeholders, and how to draft some standard letters. This manual is now available in English, French and Spanish. Hard copies can be requested from the WTO Secretariat and electronic copies can be downloaded from the SPS gateway of the WTO website.²¹

49. The training and technical assistance activities of the WTO Secretariat on the SPS Agreement also devote a significant amount of time to transparency issues. In addition, the Standards and Trade Development Facility (STDF) has funded various projects to increase transparency by enhancing inter-agency coordination at a national and/or regional level, as well as strengthening linkages between government agencies and the private sector. The STDF published a scoping study that identifies and assesses the myriad of regional SPS policy frameworks and strategies in Africa, in order

¹⁹ See the Analysis of Replies to the Questionnaire on the Operation of Enquiry Points and National Notification Authorities (G/SPS/GEN/751/Rev.1) for further elaboration on this issue.

²⁰ See G/SPS/W/217.

²¹ Go to http://www.wto.org/english/tratop_e/sps_e/transparency_toolkit_e.htm.

to avoid multiplication of transparency requirements, and guide future work in this area. The STDF is also completing a study to examine national SPS coordination mechanisms in Africa as a means to identify factors that contribute to successful coordination mechanisms and how they could be replicated elsewhere.

V. OTHER ASPECTS RELATING TO TRANSPARENCY

50. As indicated in the introduction, there are a number of areas where the Secretariat is not in a position to provide an overview. These include questions such as the following:

- To what extent are Members publishing a notice at an early stage regarding proposals to introduce a particular regulation? (Annex B, paragraph 5(a))
- To what extent are translations into English, French or Spanish of proposed regulations available? (Annex B, paragraph 8)
- How quickly do Members respond to requests for documents or other information? (Annex B, paragraphs 3 and 5(c))
- To what extent are Members providing comments on notifications, and to what extent are these taken into account? (Annex B, paragraph 5(d))

51. These are areas where Members have occasionally shared their experiences with the SPS Committee. However, as this information is not provided systematically, it has not been possible to include further details on these questions. Members are encouraged to complement this overview document through submissions to the SPS Committee regarding their own experience in matters related to the transparency provisions of the SPS Agreement.

INFORMATION ON THE ACTIVITIES TO CONTROL HUANGLONGBING BACTERIUM

Communication from Jamaica

The following communication, received on 12 October 2011, is being circulated at the request of the Delegation of Jamaica.

1. In September 2009 the Plant Health Committee of Jamaica got confirmation of the presence of *Liberibacter asiaticus* that causes citrus greening *Huanglongbing* (HLB), a disease which affects citrus trees and is also known as Yellow Dragon disease. The bacterium was detected in the Parish of St. Catherine. A positive diagnosis was done at the Mona Campus of the University of the West Indies, using Real time PCR.

2. Rapid delimiting survey showed that the HLB and its vector, the citrus psyllid, *Diaphorina citri*, were present throughout the island.

3. In an effort to manage the disease, technical assistance was sought from the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO). TCP-JAM-330 was approved and launched in November 2010 to provide assistance in specific areas including:

- (a) Facilitate the production and availability of clean nursery stock:
 - Construction of Budwood facilities;
 - Construction of a demonstration nursery.
- (b) Development of an Area -wide Management Programme:
 - Organization of management areas for commercial citrus growers (Management Clusters) and implementation of two prototype areas;
 - Development of an integrated management programme for residential citrus growers found in commercial management areas.
- (c) Public Awareness Program - This will emphasize the serious problem to various stakeholders and focus on the need for using certified nursery material;
- (d) Establishment of a model plot at the Montpellier Research Station;
- (e) Four technical consultancies;

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- (f) Increased capacity to produce pathogen free material through a shoot tip grafting programme;
- (g) Improved capacity for the diagnostic testing for HLB through training and laboratory construction.

Under the TCP, items b, d, g and h above are currently being implemented.

4. Measures to restrict the spread of the Citrus Greening Disease include:

- (a) The Plant Quarantine Branch, Jamaica's NPPO, has issued The Plants (Quarantine) (Citrus Greening Disease) (Huanglongbing) Order, 2010, indicating that Citrus Greening disease is a notifiable plant pest;
- (b) Currently a Citrus Nursery Order is being prepared;
- (c) An island wide survey is underway to determine the incidence of the disease in the commercial groves.

5. In addition, the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries has initiated a biological control programme in collaboration with public and private sector stakeholders to rear and release natural enemies of the psyllid vector in commercial and residential plots.

**REPORT ON THE EPIDEMIOLOGICAL ANALYSIS OF OUTBREAKS OF
VENEZUELAN EQUINE ENCEPHALITIS (ENZOOTIC IE STRAIN)**

Communication from Mexico

The following communication, received on 18 October 2011, is being circulated at the request of the delegation of Mexico.

1. Following two outbreaks of Venezuelan Equine Encephalitis (enzootic IE strain) last July and September in the states of Tabasco and Veracruz, the National Agriculture and Food Health, Safety and Quality Service (SENASICA) carried out an epidemiological analysis in order to provide further details on the outbreaks and on the closure of these cases to the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE). The analysis revealed the following:

2. According to the epidemiological investigations conducted to date, there is no epidemiological relationship between the two cases, nor have there been any further cases.

3. Mexico has been free from Venezuelan Equine Encephalitis (VEE) caused by epizootic strains since 1972. SENASICA has maintained its passive epidemiological surveillance through the notification of suspect neurological cases in which antibodies against the virus can be detected in percentages that are insignificant from a statistical and epidemiological point of view, but the virus has not been isolated in the population at risk.

4. In the recently notified outbreaks, the enzootic virus was isolated, but its dissemination capacity within the sample population of horses or in the surrounding areas could not be established. This means that we can assume that although the enzootic variant of the virus could affect an equid, owing to its low virulence and pathogenicity it would not multiply or be transmitted through the infected equid to the rest of the exposed population. Consequently, the outbreak is basically self-limiting in the infected equids. Moreover, the preventive use of vaccinations against both enzootic and epizootic viruses means that the serological diagnosis is not conclusive, so that the isolation and genetic characterization of the virus is what counts.

5. In the two VEE cases identified in July 2011 (Tabasco and Veracruz), Mexico concluded that the histopathological results and the lesions observed corresponded to discrete localized leukoencephalomalacia with gliosis and moderate multifocal haemorrhaging, and no lesions were observed that would suggest a viral process. At the same time, the viral isolation for VEE was negative.

6. It should be stressed that Mexico maintains continuous passive epidemiological surveillance, with daily work plans involving visits to contact points in the livestock sector to encourage reporting, for the purposes of early detection of any health problems that pose a risk for production, productivity

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and public health. At the same time, Mexico maintains a vector control programme in places where Dengue has previously been present, including the states of Tabasco and Veracruz. This control programme is intensified during the rainy season, which is when Culicoides are most common in sub-tropical and tropical areas, which contributes indirectly to reducing the risk of VEE.

7. In view of the above considerations and in order to speed up the return or exportation of equids participating in the XVI Pan American games to be held in Guadalajara, Jalisco, from 14 to 30 October 2011, Mexico proposes that Members:

- Maintain the recognition of Mexico as free from epizootic Venezuelan equine encephalomyelitis; or
- recognize the closure of VEE cases in accordance with the decisions notified to the OIE on 29 August and 13 September 2011; or
- accept the regional nature of the outbreaks, recognizing the state of Jalisco as free from the disease.

8. This communication is being made for reasons of transparency under Article 7 of the Agreement, and is without prejudice to Mexico's rights under that Agreement.

**ACTIVITIES UNDERTAKEN BY THE INTERNATIONAL REGIONAL
ORGANIZATION FOR PLANT AND ANIMAL HEALTH (OIRSA)
RELATING TO THE WTO AGREEMENT ON THE
APPLICATION OF SANITARY AND
PHYTOSANITARY MEASURES**

Report to the 52nd Meeting of the Committee
on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures,
19-20 October 2011

The following communication, received on 12 October 2011, is being circulated at the request of OIRSA.

1. Specific support for agricultural production chains

1. In coordination with national sanitary and phytosanitary authorities and the private sector, OIRSA is continuing to implement sanitary and phytosanitary programmes in support of agrifood chains. The following action has been taken over the past three months.

Phytosanitary programme in support of the citrus fruit production chain

2. OIRSA coordinated a visit by a technical mission of experts from the Government of Chinese Taipei's International Cooperation and Development Fund (ICDF) with a view to assessing the situation in the region as regards the citrus fruit disease Huanglongbing (HLB) and jointly preparing a regional project for HLB control.

3. In Mexico, OIRSA supported the participation of regional technicians in the Second International Workshop on Citrus Quarantine Pests.

4. In Panama, OIRSA held the Second International Panel of Experts on Fruit Flies, in alliance with the Ministry of Agricultural Development, the University of Panama, the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) and the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA).

5. In Costa Rica, support was given to FAO at the International Meeting of Experts on the Biological Control of the Vector of the Citrus Disease Huanglongbing.

6. In Nicaragua, technical and financial support is ongoing for the programme to maintain the northern part of Lake Xolotlán as an area free of the Mediterranean fruit fly (*Ceratitis capitata*).

Phytosanitary programme in support of the vegetable production chain

7. Contact has been established with the North American Plant Protection Organization (NAPPO) with a view to analysing strategies to prevent tomato leafminer (*Tuta absoluta* Meyrick).

8. In Panama, OIRSA evaluated the national programme for the control of tomato leafminer (*Tuta absoluta* Meyrick).

9. OIRSA continues to support the implementation of the programme to eliminate the South American cucurbit fruit fly, *Anastrepha grandis*, in the Panamanian province of Darién.

10. In coordination with the National Agriculture and Food Health, Safety and Quality Service (SENASICA) of the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, Rural Development, Fisheries and Food (SAGARPA), a regional training workshop was held in Mexico to strengthen the phytosanitary monitoring of tomato leafminer (*Tuta absoluta* Meyrick).

Phytosanitary programme in support of the palm production chain

11. In Honduras, a regional congress on palm oil was held in coordination with the Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock and other organizations.

12. OIRSA, through the technical assistance of a red palm mite (*Raoiella indica*) expert, assisted the phytosanitary monitoring programmes of Mexico, the Dominican Republic and Honduras.

Swine health programme

13. In the context of the PREFIP III Project, which OIRSA is implementing with support from the Government of Chinese Taipei, health risk analysis studies on classical swine fever were conducted for Nicaragua and Honduras.

14. As part of the same project, manuals were published on biosecurity measures for small and medium-sized semi-industrial farms and on cysticercosis control. National courses on artisanal sausage preparation were held in the Dominican Republic, Honduras and Panama.

Bovine health programme

15. OIRSA supported a national study to determine the prevalence of bovine brucellosis and tuberculosis in Guatemala.

16. In Mexico, an international course on the gross pathology of ruminants was organized in coordination with SENASICA/SAGARPA.

2. Training, technical assistance and dissemination activities relating to agricultural health and trade

17. In Honduras, logistical and technical support was provided for the Eighth Central American and Caribbean Congress on Apicultural Integration and Modernization, organized by the Agricultural Health Service (SENASA) of the Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock (SAG), the National Beekeepers Association of Honduras (ANAPIH) and the Central American and Caribbean Beekeepers Federation (FEDECCAPI). OIRSA gave a presentation on its principal activities in favour of Central American and Caribbean apiculture.

18. In Panama, training was provided on rapid bioassays for the determination of pesticide residues (organophosphates and carbamates) with the support of the Programme for Pesticide Residue Control in Fruit and Vegetables. The recipients of the training were official technicians responsible for inspection, laboratories and the export sector, from Guatemala, Honduras, El Salvador, Nicaragua, Panama and the Dominican Republic.

19. In Panama, technical assistance was given to companies in the fisheries sector through pre-inspection relating to good manufacturing practices (GMP), sanitation standard operating procedures (SSOP) and hazard analysis and critical control points (HACCP) for farmed shrimp, in accordance with US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) requirements.

20. In Honduras, in coordination with the Food Safety Division of SENASA/SAG, pre-audits were conducted on the health and safety of fisheries products (farmed shrimp and tilapia), in accordance with European Union requirements.

21. In Honduras, support was given to the Food Safety Division of SENASA/SAG through an evaluation of the Fisheries Department Inspection Service.

22. In Honduras, a second theoretical and practical course was held on white shrimp (*Penaeus vannamei*) pathology and immunology.

23. In Nicaragua, the Comprehensive Programme for Improvement of Milk Production and Quality (PROCAL) continues to be implemented in coordination with the Directorate-General of Agricultural Protection and Health (DGPSA) of the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Forestry (MAGFOR), the National Agrarian University of Managua, the National Autonomous University of Nicaragua and milk producers cooperatives, and with support from the National Agricultural Health Centre of Cuba (CENSA).

24. In Nicaragua, support was given to the national authorities in the preparation of an action plan to enhance trade in fisheries and aquaculture products between Nicaragua and its Central American neighbours.

25. In Guatemala, in coordination with the Animal Health Directorate of the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Food (MAGA) and the Regional Avian Disease Programme (PREA), an assessment was made of the health situation with regard to *Salmonella enteritidis* in poultry.

26. In Guatemala, OIRSA organized a workshop on current quality and safety trends in the preparation of balanced foods for animals, and pharmacovigilance.

27. A protocol on the prevention of outbreaks of *Aethina tumida* was drawn up and made available to member countries. The document was prepared by the OIRSA Ad Hoc Group on Apicultural Health and Safety.

3. Strengthening of national institutions in order to facilitate trade

28. STDF project 284, "Strengthening the Honduran National Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures (CNMSF)", continues to be implemented with the support of the Standards and Trade Development Facility (STDF)/WTO. The following documents have been prepared in recent months: "An evaluation of the economic impact of the application of phytosanitary measures on trade in strategic products of plant origin" and "Communication and dissemination programme for the CNMSF". National workshops were held on the IPPC and the application of ISPM No. 15 (Regulation of Wood Packaging Material in International Trade), and the Honduran national committee heard about the experiences of the National SPS Committee of the Dominican Republic.

29. OIRSA supported the participation of delegates from the National Codex Alimentarius Committees of Central America at the 34th Session of the Codex Alimentarius Commission. OIRSA also participated in this event as an observer organization.

4. Support for regional trade facilitation

30. With a view to facilitating trade in dairy products between El Salvador and Nicaragua, OIRSA continues to facilitate the exchange of official information on dairy plant inspection under the sanitary protocol to facilitate bilateral trade between the two countries.

31. OIRSA has promoted technical meetings between the Mexican health authorities and their Central American counterparts, with a view to the harmonization of animal health requirements for importing live cattle from Central America into Mexico.

5. Support for the harmonization and equivalence process

32. In the context of the cooperation agreement on food safety signed with the Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS) and the Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS), both of which are agencies of the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), and with the participation of an expert from the International Commission of Microbiological Specifications for Foods (ICMSF), a third technical meeting was held to review Central American Customs Union regulations (RTCA) on the sanitary registration of foods and microbiological criteria for food safety and their equivalence with the regulations of the United States.

33. Within the framework of the Central American Customs Union, through the OIRSA Ad Hoc Group on Veterinary Medicines, support was given for the revision of Central American technical regulations on veterinary medicines and animal food.

34. In Viet Nam, OIRSA took part in the 23rd Technical Consultation among Regional Plant Protection Organizations (RPPO).

35. In El Salvador, OIRSA held a regional workshop to review the ISPM drafts submitted by the IPPC. Support was also provided for the participation of delegates from the National Plant Protection Organizations (NPPO) of the OIRSA region in a Latin American workshop for the review of ISPM drafts, held in Costa Rica.

6. Strategic alliances for the promotion of health and trade

36. Within the framework of the programme for cooperation with the Chilean Agricultural and Livestock Service, officials from the Service visited the Dominican Republic and Panama where the respective agricultural health cooperation plans were drawn up with the national authorities and OIRSA.

37. In Panama, FAO and OIRSA signed a Letter of Agreement for the provision of technical services aimed at supporting the Central American countries and the Dominican Republic in the control of citrus Huanglongbing.

In order to comment on this report or obtain additional information on plant health activities, please contact: Edwin Aragón, e-mail: earagon@oirsa.org.

For more information on food safety, please contact: Óscar García, e-mail: ogarcia@oirsa.org.

For any queries on animal health activities, please contact: Abelardo de Gracia, e-mail: adegracia@oirsapanama.org.pa.

We invite you to visit our website: <http://www.oirsa.org>

China's Transitional Review Mechanism
COMMITTEE ON SANITARY AND PHYTOSANITARY MEASURES
19 October 2011

Statement of the United States

1. When China signed its Protocol of Accession to the WTO 10 years ago, it agreed to an annual Transitional Review Mechanism (TRM) to be conducted before 16 committees and councils each fall for 8 years, with a final review by year 10. As envisioned by the terms of China's accession, the United States would like to share its observations on China's compliance with its obligations in the sanitary and phytosanitary area during its first 10 years of WTO membership.
2. As Members may recall, the TRM was created largely because China was admitted to WTO membership before it had revised all of its trade-related laws and regulations to become WTO-compatible, and because China was allowed a variety of transition periods before it took on certain WTO obligations. The annual TRM meetings therefore provided Members with opportunities to review with China, in a multilateral setting, the efforts that China had taken to implement specific commitments made in its Protocol of Accession as well as China's efforts to comply with the obligations that it had taken on under the many agreements that make up the WTO Agreement.
3. While China's Protocol of Accession required China to implement numerous specific commitments in a variety of areas either immediately upon its accession or after a transition period, China's Protocol of Accession was more straightforward in addressing the area of sanitary and phytosanitary (SPS) measures. The key commitment that China made in this area was to take on the transparency obligations that all WTO Members have under the Agreement on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures (SPS Agreement) within 30 days upon its accession.
4. As we look at developments relating to China's use of SPS measures, we can see that while trade in agricultural goods has expanded significantly since China's accession to the WTO, a variety of non-tariff barriers, particularly in the area of SPS measures, have impeded access to China's market over the past 10 years. Moreover, serious concerns continue to arise, such as the announcement of China's new food registration requirements (notified to the WTO as G/SPS/N/CHN/472) which only apply to imported food products and not domestic products.
5. The rules and procedures in the SPS Agreement require that Members ensure that any SPS measures are applied only to the extent necessary to protect human, animal and plant health concerns, are based on scientific principles, is not maintained without sufficient scientific evidence, does not arbitrarily or unjustifiably discriminate between WTO members' agricultural and food products, and are applied in a manner which would constitute a disguised restrictions on international trade. The SPS Agreement requires that the measures be based on international standards of the OIE, IPPC or CODEX or be developed through risk assessment procedures and adopted with transparency.

6. Looking back on the past 10 years, the record shows that China's regulatory authorities imposed non-transparent SPS measures apparently lacking a scientific basis on a number of key U.S. agricultural exports. In addition, in many instances, U.S. efforts to resolve China's underlying concerns were hindered by China's inability to provide relevant risk assessments or its science-based rationale for maintaining its import restrictions against U.S.-origin products.
7. For example, since 2003, China has banned imports of U.S. beef and some low-risk bovine products in response to a single native case of BSE found in the United States. These bans remain in place today, even though in 2007 the United States received a risk classification as a "controlled risk" country from the World Organization for Animal Health (known as the OIE), indicating that all U.S. beef and beef products are safe to trade, provided that so-called "specified risk materials" are removed during processing.
8. Since 2002, China has applied a zero tolerance limit for certain pathogens – a standard which is scientifically appropriate for cooked meat – to imported raw meat and poultry. One requirement establishes a zero tolerance limit for the presence of Salmonella bacteria. Similar zero tolerance standards exist for Listeria and other pathogens, even though the complete elimination of these pathogens is generally considered unachievable, and China apparently does not apply the same standard to domestic raw poultry and meat.
9. At various times, China has also imposed lengthy bans – in some cases lasting several years – on poultry from various U.S. states in response to cases of low-pathogenic Avian Influenza (AI), even though OIE guidelines limit measures to three months. China's regulatory authorities have lifted some of these state-level bans, although currently bans remain in place on poultry from four U.S. states, well past the OIE guidance period.
10. With respect to notification of proposed SPS measures, while China has made progress, it still does not appear to have notified all proposed SPS measures as required by the SPS Agreement. Some of China's SPS measures continue to enter into force without having first been notified to the SPS Committee, and without other WTO Members having had the opportunity to comment on them, even though they appear to be the type of measures that are subject to the notification requirements of the SPS Agreement. Many of these unnotified measures are of key concern to foreign traders. Indeed, since 2003, the United States has identified more than 250 SPS measures implementing important new registration requirements, residue standards, inspection requirements and quarantine requirements, which China has not notified to the SPS Committee.
11. While there has been some progress by China in the SPS area, and the United States acknowledges that China has had to deal with a number of significant public health concerns such as the intentional melamine contamination of infant formula and pet food and the use of illegal pesticides and contaminants within its borders, China's record over the past 10 years clearly signals that more work must be done within China to fully implement the WTO SPS Agreement.
12. Going forward, the United States urges China to fully embrace the disciplines of the SPS Agreement, which require SPS measures to be based on international standards or science based risk analysis procedures. The United States also urges China to take additional steps to draft and

implement SPS-related measures in a transparent manner that meets the requirements of the SPS Agreement. These changes will help to create the predictability and transparency that are critical to the proper functioning of China's market, as agricultural traders require as much predictability and transparency as possible in order to preserve margins and reduce the already substantial risks involved in agricultural trade. The United States will continue to engage China, both here at the WTO and bilaterally, until all of these outstanding issues are resolved.

**TRANSITIONAL REVIEW MECHANISM PURSUANT TO PARAGRAPH 18
OF THE PROTOCOL ON THE ACCESSION OF THE
PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA ("CHINA")**

Questions from the European Union to China
concerning Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures

The following communication, received on 4 October 2011, is being circulated at the request of the Delegation of the European Union.

I. GENERAL COMMENT

1. This is the last transitional review of the efforts of the People's Republic of China (hereinafter referred to as "China") to implement the commitments it has made in its Protocol of Accession to the WTO in the SPS Committee. The transitional review has proved to be an important and useful mechanism, which has served both the interests of China and the interests of other WTO Members to allow Members to convey to China their views, expectations and concerns regarding China's efforts to comply with its WTO SPS obligations. The European Union would like to take this opportunity to give its comments and questions in the last review of this kind to China concerning China's Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures.

2. The European Union notes with satisfaction the increased communication between China and the European Union on SPS issues. The European Union believes that our bilateral consultations are essential to build mutual trust and the better understanding indispensable to forging strong relationships.

3. The European Union acknowledges that, with the increase in trade this work is growing and encourages China to continue to dedicate even more resources to these tasks consistent with the responsibilities that have followed from membership of the WTO/SPS Agreement and the incredible amount of work which China has put in place during the last years to revise its food safety standards, which also affects trade.

4. As a general remark, the European Union would need to point out that China has not fulfilled its obligation as regards transparency towards trading partners while developing its legislation in the area of food safety, animal and plant health. The access to legislation and procedures remains limited, as well as possibilities to comment on the draft legislation, as China has not made laws and other measures affecting trade available in one or more WTO languages, despite its commitment in China's Working Party Report (paragraph 334).

5. Given the draft legislation and SPS notifications coming from China in huge volumes (as an example almost 100 notifications in one month) during the last two years, it has been, in practice, impossible to follow and give comments on all new legislation affecting trade, especially as

translations have not been available into a WTO language. It is not always clear if the comments given by trading partners have been taken into account before finalising the legislation and regulations.

6. The European Union would like to recall that China should allow a reasonable interval between the publication of a sanitary and phytosanitary regulation and its entry into force in order to allow time for other trading partners to adapt to the Chinese requirements and to follow the transparency requirements as laid down in the WTO SPS Agreement in Article 7 and in Annex B.

Question: Could China elaborate how it will in the future follow the transparency requirements as laid down in the SPS Agreement in this respect?

II. EU SPECIFIC CONCERNS ON THE APPLICATION OF THE SPS AGREEMENT

7. The European Union also notes that China has not yet aligned its legislation to several international standards. Alternatively, a scientific justification should be submitted to support the sanitary and phytosanitary measures applied, as described in Article 2.2 of the SPS Agreement.

8. Among the specific areas of this kind are in particular the following.

A. FOOD ADDITIVES AND PROCESSING AIDS

9. The Chinese list of authorized food additives and processing aids differs significantly from the list of substances used worldwide and considered safe by international standard-setting bodies, which creates unnecessary trade barriers.

10. The European Union asks China to further collaborate in a transparent manner when developing and implementing new standards and to continue the cooperation with other trading partners in this respect.

Question: When will China align its legislation and regulations, or alternatively submit a scientific justification in cases where China applies a lower limit than the international standard-setting body or in cases where China has not authorized a substance allowed by other trading partners and considered safe by international standard setting bodies?

B. BEEF (BSE)

11. The European Union would like to remind China that the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) issued a list of bovine products which can be safely traded regardless of the BSE status of the exporting country. Among these products is de-boned skeletal muscle meat from cattle. Moreover EU member States have been classified by the OIE either as "controlled risk" or "negligible risk" countries. Despite these OIE guidelines and classification, EU beef and other bovine products are still banned.

12. The European Union has comprehensive measures in place aimed at assuring the highest level of consumer protection. Among these are a strict feed ban, strict controls on Specified Risk Materials and active surveillance. Although the European Union offers the highest health guarantees to its trade partners, China has not allowed the trade of these products.

13. Therefore the European Union would like to request China to open its market to EU exports of these products; or alternatively to justify, by scientific reasons, the restrictions on the products that under the OIE list can be safely traded, as well as for all the other products originating from EU member States.

Question: When will China allow the imports of beef and other products from EU member States, in line with the OIE, or alternatively justify, by scientific reasons, the restrictions on the products that under the OIE list can be safely traded?

C. H1N1

14. The European Union followed closely the developments of the pandemic influenza virus H1N1 and considered it important that governments responded appropriately and proportionately to the risks imposed.

15. The European Union notes that China continues imposing additional trade requirements on live pigs from EU member States. These requirements take the form of requirements of disease-free areas from where live pigs are exported to China. The European Union considers these measures unnecessary and unjustified and not in line with the statements made by the main relevant international organizations such as OIE, WHO and FAO. There is no scientific justification for imposing such requirements, especially as WHO has declared the pandemic over.

Question: When will China revise its import rules for live pigs in this respect, to align its requirements with the international standard-setting bodies?

D. OTHER CONCERNS/ UNDUE DELAYS

16. The European Union also wish to express concerns on several other matters on principles and approaches to facilitate trade which have been raised in our bilateral contacts. We firmly believe that countries should work closely together and build working relations that facilitate trade flows through appropriate mechanisms. The slow progress of negotiations of SPS protocols and the slow progress for inspections seriously limit market access of EU products to China, especially for meat, and for fruit and vegetables.

17. The audit and inspection approach by China, which does not follow the Codex Alimentarius standard on inspections/audits, results in unjustified delays and thus is not in line with the principles of the WTO SPS Agreement, especially as set out in Annex C.

18. The European Union wishes to see progress on these issues. The European Union is ready to further discuss bilaterally at technical level to find a solution to accelerate these negotiations in order to avoid undue procedural delays.

Could China elaborate on how it intends to avoid undue procedural delays for approval processes as mentioned in Annex C of the SPS Agreement and when it will start applying inspections following the Codex Alimentarius standard on inspections/audits?

Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures

INTERNATIONAL INTERGOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

Requests for Observer Status in the Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures

Revision

This document lists the international intergovernmental organizations which have requested observer status in the Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures.¹

1. International Intergovernmental Organizations having observer status on a regular basis

Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)
FAO International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC)
FAO/WHO Joint Codex Alimentarius Commission (Codex)
International Monetary Fund (IMF)*
International Organization for Standardization (ISO)
International Trade Centre (ITC)
World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE)
United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD)
World Bank*
World Health Organization (WHO)

2. International Intergovernmental Organizations having observer status on an *ad hoc* (meeting-by-meeting) basis

African, Caribbean and Pacific Group of States (ACP Group)
Agency for International Trade Information and Cooperation (AITIC)
Community of Sahel-Saharan States (CEN-SAD)
Economic Community for West African States (ECOWAS)
European Free Trade Association (EFTA)
Inter-American Institute for Agricultural Cooperation (IICA)
Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)
Regional International Organization for Plant Protection and Animal Health (OIRSA)
Southern African Development Community (SADC)
Latin American Economic System (SELA)
West African Economic and Monetary Union (WAEMU)

¹ Members wishing to consult the communications sent to the Secretariat by the international intergovernmental organizations are invited to contact Mrs. Gretchen Stanton (Agriculture and Commodities Division), office 1106.

* Observer status in WTO subsidiary bodies provided through the WTO Agreements with the Fund and the World Bank (WT/L/194 and WT/L/195).

3. International Intergovernmental Organizations whose request is pending

African Union (AU)

Asian and Pacific Coconut Community (APCC)

Center for Agricultural Bioscience International (CABI)

Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA)

Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)

Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES)

Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS)

Gulf Cooperation Council Standardization Organization (GSO)

Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD)

International Cocoa Organization (ICCO)

International Vine and Wine Office (OIV)

Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures

**OUTSTANDING REQUESTS FROM INTERNATIONAL
INTERGOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS**

Criteria for Observer Status

Note by the Secretariat¹

1. At the June 2011 meeting of the SPS Committee, several Members indicated that recalling the Committee's previously adopted guidelines for the granting of observer status would be useful to facilitate the consideration of the outstanding requests from various international intergovernmental organizations. Furthermore, Members expressed an interest in considering the requests according to the category of organization.

A. WORKING PROCEDURES OF THE COMMITTEE

2. Paragraph 7 of the Working Procedures of the Committee (G/SPS/1, dated 4 April 1995) reads as follows:

"Representatives of the FAO/WHO Codex Alimentarius Commission (Codes), the Office international des epizooties (OIE) and the FAO Secretariat for the International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC) will be invited to attend meetings as observers, pending the final decision by the General Council. Representatives of other international intergovernmental organizations may be invited by the Committee to attend meetings as observers in accordance with the guidelines to be adopted by the General Council. Notwithstanding the above, the Committee may, as appropriate, decide to hold restricted sessions with participation of Members only."

3. Guidelines on Observer Status for International Intergovernmental Organizations in the WTO were adopted by the General Council on 25 July 1996 (see the "General Council Guidelines, attached to this note).²

4. In the first half of 1998, the Committee held informal consultations with the aim of identifying criteria for granting observer status. In November 1998, the Secretariat was asked to prepare a background document summarizing concerns raised by some Members regarding the grant of observer status to other intergovernmental organizations and the criteria which had been suggested as most appropriate (G/SPS/W/98). At its meeting in March 1999, the Committee agreed to apply the criteria identified in paragraph 7 of that document in deciding on requests for observer status, and also agreed that, as an interim step, such requests would be granted only on an *ad hoc*, meeting-by-meeting basis. Paragraph 7 of G/SPS/W/98 reads:

¹ This document has been prepared under the Secretariat's own responsibility and is without prejudice to the positions of Members or to their rights or obligations under the WTO.

² WT/L/161.

"Suggested criteria for considering requests for observer status included the mandate, scope and area of work covered by the organization. Observer status should be granted to organizations, which objectively contributed to the functioning and implementation of the SPS Agreement.³ Another criteria identified was reciprocity." (underlined in original)

B. CURRENT OBSERVER ORGANIZATIONS

5. Since 1995, the SPS Committee has granted observer status to a total of 21 bodies as follows:

(a) Observer status has been granted on a regular basis to:

	<i>Observer</i>	<i>Acronym</i>	<i>Date of decision</i>
1.	Food and Agriculture Organization	<i>FAO</i>	Mar-97
2.	FAO International Plant Protection Convention	<i>IPPC</i>	Mar-97
3.	FAO/WHO Joint Codex Alimentarius Commission	<i>CODEX</i>	Mar-97
4.	International Organization for Standardization	<i>ISO</i>	Mar-97
5.	International Trade Center	<i>ITC</i>	Mar-97
6.	World Organization for Animal Health	<i>OIE</i>	Mar-97
7.	United Nations Conference on Trade and Development	<i>UNCTAD</i>	Mar-97
8.	World Health Organization	<i>WHO</i>	Mar-97

(b) Observer status granted as part of a WTO reciprocity agreement/ MOU to:

	<i>Observer</i>	<i>Acronym</i>	<i>Date of decision</i>
1.	International Monetary Fund	<i>IMF</i>	Nov-96
2.	World Bank		Nov-96

³ The position of the European Union is developed in greater detail in document G/SPS/W/95, "International Observer Organizations", circulated on 23 November 1998. [footnote in the original]

(c) Observer status granted on an *ad hoc* basis to:

	<i>Observer</i>	<i>Acronym</i>	<i>Date of request</i>	<i>Date of decision</i>
1.	African, Caribbean and Pacific Group of States	<i>ACP GROUP</i>	01-Mar-99	Nov-99
2.	European Free Trade Association	<i>EFTA</i>	01-Mar-99	Nov-99
3.	Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture	<i>IICA</i>	01-Mar-99	Nov-99
4.	Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development	<i>OECD</i>	01-Mar-99	Nov-99
5.	Regional International Agricultural Health Organization	<i>OIRSA</i>	01-Mar-99	Nov-99
6.	Latin American Economic System	<i>SELA</i>	01-Mar-99	Nov-99
7.	Economic Community for West African States	<i>ECOWAS</i>	05-Oct-09	Mar-10
8.	The Community of Sahel Saharan States	<i>CEN-SAD</i>	22-Nov-09	Mar-10
9.	The Southern African Development Community	<i>SADC</i>	21-Dec-09	Mar-10
10.	The West African Economic and Monetary Union	<i>WAEMU</i>	29-Apr-10	Jun-10
11.	The Agency for International Trade Information and Cooperation	<i>AITIC</i>	08-Apr-10	Jun-10

C. INTERGOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS WHOSE REQUESTS ARE OUTSTANDING AS OF AUGUST 2011

6. The various organizations requesting observer status in the SPS Committee fall into several categories. These include, for example, UN-affiliated organizations, various regional bodies, commodity-specific bodies, and international scientific organizations. The outstanding requests are, therefore, categorized as below to facilitate Members' consideration of requests for observer status.

1. African regional secretariats and development bodies

- Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA)
- Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS/CEEAC)
- Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD)

2. Other regional bodies

- Gulf Cooperation Council Standardization Organization (GSO)

3. Commodity-specific organizations

- Asian and Pacific Coconut Community (APCC)
- International Cocoa Organization (ICCO)
- Office international de la vigne et du vin/International Vine and Wine Office (OIV)

4. International "Scientific" Organization

- Commonwealth Agricultural Bureau International (CABI)

5. Other global bodies

- Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)
- Standing Committee of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES)

- (a) Organizations seeking observer status were requested to provide complete documentation relevant to the criteria identified in paragraph 7 of document G/SPS/W/98, in support of their applications. The information provided is contained in the following documents:

	Application received on	Background information
African regional secretariats and development bodies COMESA ECCAS/CEEAC IGAD	15 February 2011 8 January 2011 March 2011	G/SPS/GEN/121/Add.12 G/SPS/GEN/121/Add.10 not yet received
Other regional bodies GSO	6 May 2007	G/SPS/GEN/121/Add.3
Commodity-specific organizations APCC ICCO OIV	25 October 1999 14 July 2011 25 October 1999	G/SPS/GEN/121/Add.1 not yet received G/SPS/GEN/121
Other global bodies CBD CABI CITES	original 13 June 2002 renewed 11 August 2010 11 February 2011 14 March 2011	G/SPS/GEN/121/Add.2/Rev.1 G/SPS/GEN/121/Add.9 G/SPS/GEN/121/Add.11

Attachment 1
(WT/L/161, 25 July 1996, Annex 3, pp. 16-17)

OBSERVER STATUS FOR INTERNATIONAL INTERGOVERNMENTAL
ORGANIZATIONS IN THE WTO¹

1. The purpose of observer status for international intergovernmental organizations (hereinafter referred to as "organizations") in the WTO is to enable these organizations to follow discussions therein on matters of direct interest to them.
2. Requests for observer status shall accordingly be considered from organizations which have competence and a direct interest in trade policy matters, or which, pursuant to paragraph V:1 of the WTO Agreement, have responsibilities related to those of the WTO.
3. Requests for observer status shall be made in writing to the WTO body in which such status is sought, and shall indicate the nature of the work of the organization and the reasons for its interest in being accorded such status. Requests for observer status from organizations shall not, however, be considered for meetings of the Committee on Budget, Finance and Administration or of the Dispute Settlement Body.²
4. Requests for observer status shall be considered on a case-by-case basis by each WTO body to which such a request is addressed, taking into account such factors as the nature of work of the organization concerned, the nature of its membership, the number of WTO Members in the organization, reciprocity with respect to access to proceedings, documents and other aspects of observership, and whether the organization has been associated in the past with the work of the CONTRACTING PARTIES to GATT 1947.
5. In addition to organizations that request, and are granted, observer status, other organizations may attend meetings of the Ministerial Conference, the General Council or subsidiary bodies on the specific invitation of the Ministerial Conference, the General Council or the subsidiary body concerned, as the case may be. Invitations may also be extended, as appropriate and on a case-by-case basis, to specific organizations to follow particular issues within a body in an observer capacity.
6. Organizations with which the WTO has entered into a formal arrangement for cooperation and consultation shall be accorded observer status in such bodies as may be determined by that arrangement.
7. Organizations accorded observer status in a particular WTO body shall not automatically be accorded such status in other WTO bodies.
8. Representatives of organizations accorded observer status may be invited to speak at meetings of the bodies to which they are observers normally after Members of that body have spoken. The right to speak does not include the right to circulate papers or to make proposals, unless an organization is specifically invited to do so, nor to participate in decision-making.
9. Observer organizations shall receive copies of the main WTO documents series and of other documents series relating to the work of the subsidiary bodies which they attend as observers. They may receive such additional documents as may be specified by the terms of any formal arrangements for cooperation between them and the WTO.
10. If for any one-year period after the date of the grant of observer status, there has been no attendance by the observer organization, such status shall cease. In the case of sessions of the Ministerial Conference, this period shall be two years.

¹ These guidelines shall apply also to other organizations referred to by name in the WTO Agreement.

² In the case of the IMF and the World Bank, their requests for attendance as observers to the DSB will be acted upon in accordance with the arrangements to be concluded between the WTO and these two organizations

DRAFT

REPORT (2011) ON THE ACTIVITIES OF THE COMMITTEE ON SANITARY AND PHYTOSANITARY MEASURES

1. The present report is being circulated by the Chairperson of the Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures on his own responsibility. This report provides a summary of the activities and decisions of the Committee during 2011.
2. The Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures (the "SPS Committee") has held three regular meetings in 2011: 30-31 March, 30 June-1 July, and 19-20 October. At the end of the March meeting, Mr. Deny Kurnia (Indonesia) assumed the chairmanship from Mr. Flavio Soares Domico (Brazil).
3. At each meeting, Members provided information regarding changes in their SPS policies and situations. The SPS Committee also considered a wide range of specific trade concerns, including some related to individual notifications. Eighteen new specific trade concerns were raised during 2011, many previously raised concerns were again discussed. The issues discussed included, *inter alia*, restrictions relating to avian influenza and bovine spongiform encephalopathy (BSE); maximum levels of pesticide residues in various products; restrictions regarding food additives; as well as some pest-specific concerns.
4. The SPS Committee examined the operation of the transparency provisions of the SPS Agreement, noting that an increasing number of Members are submitting SPS notifications, and the number of notifications is trending upwards. A new SPS Notification Submission System (NSS) became operational during 2011, permitting Members to submit SPS notifications on-line. This system should improve the quality of the notifications, and streamline their distribution.
5. At each of the Committee's meetings, Members, Observer Organizations and the Secretariat provided information on their respective SPS-related technical assistance activities, and the Secretariat kept the Committee informed of the work of the Standards and Trade Development Facility (STDF).
6. The issue of special and differential treatment was on the agenda of each meeting of the Committee. In the March 2011 meeting, the representative of Cuba noted that the consideration of special and differential treatment, and of technology transfer, was not sufficiently discussed in the SPS Committee.
7. The SPS Committee continued to address some issues arising from the Second Review of the Operation and Implementation of the SPS Agreement, including how to facilitate the use of the Chair's Good Offices to assist Members resolve trade concerns. Issues arising from the Third Review were also examined by the Committee, in particular proposals to enhance the effective relationship between the SPS Committee and the Codex, IPPC and OIE.
8. The Committee also continued to discuss the effects of SPS-related private standards on trade, and the appropriate role of the SPS Committee. In March, the Committee endorsed five actions in this regard, and further discussed the matter in subsequent meetings.¹
9. The SPS Committee maintained its close working relationship with the IPPC, the OIE and Codex and received regular updates on their activities. Other observer organizations also provided information on their activities, including technical assistance activities.

¹ G/SPS/55.

10. In light of the growing number of requests, the Committee reviewed its criteria and procedure for granting observer status. The Committee agreed to grant observer status, on an ad hoc, meeting-by-meeting basis, to the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), the Community of Sahel Saharan States (CEN-SAD), the Southern African Development Community (SADC), the West African Economic and Monetary Union (WAEMU), and the Agency for International Trade Information and Co-operation (AITIC).

11. The SPS Committee has agreed to hold regular meetings on 30-31 March, 29-30 June and 12-13 October 2012.

DRAFT

PROPOSED AGENDA FOR MEETING OF 28-29 MARCH 2012

1. Adoption of the agenda
2. Information on relevant activities
 - (a) Information from Members
 - (b) Information from Observer organizations
3. Specific trade concerns
 - (a) New issues
 - (b) Issues previously raised
 - (c) Consideration of specific notifications received
 - (d) Information on resolution of issues in G/SPS/GEN/204/Rev.12
4. Operation of transparency provisions
5. Implementation of special and differential treatment
6. Equivalence – Article 4
 - (a) Information from Members on their experiences
 - (b) Information from relevant Observer organizations
7. Pest- and Disease-free areas – Article 6
 - (a) Information from Members on their pest or disease status
 - (b) Information from Members on their experiences in recognition of pest- or disease-free areas
 - (c) Information from relevant observer organizations
8. Technical assistance and cooperation
 - (a) Information from the Secretariat
 - (i) WTO SPS Activities
 - (ii) STDF
 - (b) Information from Members
 - (c) Information from Observers
9. Review of the Operation and Implementation of the SPS Agreement
 - (a) Issues arising from the Second Review
 - (i) Use of ad hoc consultations – Report on informal meeting
 - (b) Issues arising from the Third Review
 - (i) Report on informal meeting

10. Monitoring of the use of international standards
 - (a) New issues
 - (b) Issues previously raised
11. Concerns with private and commercial standards
 - (a) Report on informal meeting
12. Observers – Request for observer status
 - (a) Ad hoc Observers
 - (b) New Requests
 - (c) Outstanding requests
13. Other business
14. Date and agenda of next meeting

Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures

**UPDATE ON THE OPERATION OF THE STANDARDS AND
TRADE DEVELOPMENT FACILITY**

Note by the Secretariat¹

I. OVERVIEW

1. The Standards and Trade Development Facility (STDF) aims to improve the capacity in developing countries to meet international sanitary and phytosanitary (SPS) requirements and to increase the effectiveness of high-quality SPS-related technical cooperation. In doing so, the STDF contributes to improved food safety, animal and plant health, economic growth, poverty reduction and food security in developing countries. Its work programme focuses on the following five output areas: (i) development of high-quality tools and information resources to support SPS capacity building for use by beneficiaries, donors and other organizations; (ii) dissemination of experiences and good practices in SPS capacity building; (iii) SPS issues and priorities addressed by other trade capacity building programmes at the country level; (iv) improved capacity of beneficiaries of STDF projects to analyse and implement international SPS requirements; and (v) improved capacity of beneficiaries to identify SPS needs and formulate project proposals.

2. The STDF is a joint initiative of the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), the World Organization for Animal Health (OIE), the World Bank, the World Health Organization (WHO) and the World Trade Organization (WTO). The WTO provides the secretariat for the STDF. Other participating organizations include the International Trade Centre (ITC), the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) and the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO). Donors contributing funds to the STDF and representatives of developing countries, including LDCs, are also members of the Facility.²

3. This document provides an overview of STDF activities in support of its work programme since the previous SPS Committee meeting in June 2011. It also provides an overview of current STDF projects and project preparation grants. Information about completed projects, including progress, final and evaluation reports, is available on the STDF website.

II. STRATEGY DEVELOPMENT

4. The STDF Working Group is developing a new five-year Medium Term Strategy (2012-2016) for the Facility within the broader context of results based management. This also includes a revision of the STDF Operational Rules and preparation of a specific STDF Work Plan for 2012 outlining planned activities and outputs. In June 2011, the Working Group agreed on the following vision and mission statements for the STDF:

¹ This document has been prepared under the Secretariat's own responsibility and is without prejudice to the positions of Members or to their rights or obligations under the WTO.

² More detailed information on the STDF and its activities can be found on the STDF website (<http://www.standardsfacility.org>).

STDF vision

Improved sanitary and phytosanitary capacity in developing countries supports sustainable economic growth, poverty reduction, food security and environmental protection.

STDF mission

The STDF is a global partnership that supports developing countries in building their capacity to implement international sanitary and phytosanitary standards, guidelines and recommendations as a means to improve their human animal and plant health status and ability to gain and maintain access to markets.

STDF's mandate is to:

- Increase awareness, mobilize resources, strengthen collaboration, identify and disseminate good practice; and
- Provide support and funding for the development and implementation of projects that promote compliance with international SPS requirements.

The STDF is committed to the Paris Principles on Aid Effectiveness and to achieving the Millennium Development Goals.

5. The Working Group will meet on Thursday 20 October to discuss and agree on the new Medium Term Strategy, Operational Rules and Work Plan for 2012 for final endorsement by the STDF Policy Committee on 9 December 2011. More information in this regard will be provided to the Committee in March 2012.

III. COORDINATION AND INFORMATION DISSEMINATION

A. PILOT TESTING WORK ON MULTI CRITERIA DECISION ANALYSIS

6. Building on the STDF workshop on the use of economic analysis methodologies to inform SPS decision making (Geneva, 30 October 2009) the STDF continued its work to assist countries to use Multi Criteria Decision Analysis (MCDA) to inform SPS decision-making. In this context, a draft MCDA guidebook (to apply the MCDA approach in the SPS context) was developed by a consultant, Spencer Henson, and applied in Mozambique in April 2011.

7. A second pilot testing exercise was conducted in Zambia in July 2011, including a half-day workshop on 6 July to identify SPS capacity building options for consideration, as well as decision criteria and weights. The framework and preliminary results were discussed by development partners and government representatives at a meeting hosted by the World Bank in Zambia on 7 July. The application in Zambia was useful to further improve the methodology and process presented in the draft MCDA guidebook. As in Mozambique, it demonstrated the usefulness of the approach to facilitate dialogue among SPS stakeholders about priorities for SPS capacity building. The World Bank and COMESA expressed significant interest in the use of the framework to inform their own resource allocation decisions.

8. The STDF also organized a regional training workshop on 16-17 August in Johannesburg, South Africa, to train selected SPS experts from Africa on the use of MCDA. The workshop was attended by 41 participants, mainly from government departments and regional organizations in

Africa, of whom 27 were funded by the STDF. Participants confirmed the utility of the MCDA approach as a tool to support decision-making in the SPS area and made a number of useful observations to improve its future application. There was general agreement that this framework presents a useful tool to guide and support SPS decision-making and is likely to work best in countries where there is an effective SPS coordination mechanism in place, but that the results generated need to be seen in terms of the reliability of, and confidence in, the data used. Some participants expressed interest to apply this tool in their national SPS committees or as part of STDF PPG requests. Further to the work in Africa, additional pilot testing activities may be organized in 2012 in either Asia or Latin America (as part of STDF's Work Plan for 2012), following a discussion on the MCDA in the Working Group on 21 October. The STDF welcomes expressions of interest from countries in these regions.

B. PROPOSED STDF SEMINAR ON INTERNATIONAL TRADE AND INVASIVE ALIEN SPECIES

9. Based on the recommendations arising from the second meeting of the Inter-Agency Liaison Group on Invasive Alien Species (IAS) held at the WTO on 14-15 February 2011, the STDF will organize a seminar on international trade and IAS on Monday 9 July 2012, on the margins of the SPS Committee. The seminar will in particular seek to:

- raise awareness of the negative consequences of IAS to animal and plant health and the importance of coherence and dialogue at the national level between environmental institutions and those responsible for SPS measures when building strategies to control trade-related IAS; and
- review existing assistance to strengthen national capacity to manage IAS, and share experiences on the various approaches adopted by countries / regions with the view to promote good practice in this area.

10. The seminar will be organized in close consultation with key STDF partners, notably the IPPC, OIE and WTO Secretariats, and benefit from the input of other relevant organizations, in particular other members of the Inter-Agency Liaison Group on IAS. This seminar will be open to SPS delegates, as well as representatives of international organizations and bilateral development agencies with experience in IAS issues. Consideration is being given to open the seminar for limited external participation upon registration. More information on this event will be communicated to the Committee in March 2012.

C. STDF STUDIES AND PUBLICATIONS

11. The following two STDF studies / publications were completed, circulated via the STDF e-mailing list and made available on the STDF website:³

- SPS-Related Capacity Evaluation Tools: An Overview of Tools Developed by International Organizations (second edition)
- Climate Change and Trade: The Link to Sanitary and Phytosanitary Standards (joint World Bank/STDF publication).

12. The STDF will present the preliminary conclusions and recommendations of a study on national SPS coordination mechanisms in Africa at the WTO workshop on SPS Coordination at

³ If you would like to subscribe to the e-mailing list and receive information about the latest STDF publications and activities, please follow the instructions on the STDF website: <http://www.standardsfacility.org/en/ContactUs.htm>

National and Regional Levels on 17 October 2011. This study was conducted by the UK Natural Resources Institute (NRI) and based on desk research and a series of meetings with key stakeholders. The study analyses existing SPS coordination mechanisms in several countries and provides a set of practical recommendations to inform the future establishment of these mechanisms and enhance national-level SPS coordination. The study complements a previous STDF report in 2010 on regional SPS frameworks and strategies in Africa. The study will be finalized in the final quarter of 2011 taking into account the discussions in the WTO workshop on 17 October.

D. STDF FILM

13. The STDF has finalized the production of the Arabic, Chinese and Russian versions of the STDF film “*Trading Safely: Protecting Health, Promoting Development*” (both the eight-minute and 30-minute versions), with the financial support of the Safe Supply of Affordable Food Everywhere (SSAFE) Initiative. The new language versions are available at: <http://www.standardsfacility.org/IRVideos.htm>. Copies can be obtained from the STDF Secretariat upon request.

E. STDF VIRTUAL LIBRARY

14. The STDF is developing a Virtual Library. The library will contain SPS-related electronic documentation, including SPS needs assessments, action plans, technical assistance and meeting reports, training materials, research papers, capacity evaluation reports, articles from various publishers and sources, etc. This central repository of SPS-related resources will inform and assist in further improving the quality of SPS-related capacity building activities. It will assist beneficiaries, international organizations, stakeholders, researchers and consultants in the development and implementation of SPS-related initiatives and in further disseminating experiences and good practices.

F. PARTICIPATION IN OTHER INITIATIVES

15. The STDF continued its collaboration with various other activities and initiatives in the area of SPS-related technical cooperation to monitor developments, ensure synergies, share experiences and ensure maximal coordination. This includes STDF involvement in the Aid for Trade initiative and the Enhanced Integrated Framework (EIF).

16. The STDF collaborates with the EIF and the UK Centre for International Development and Training (CIDT) at the University of Wolverhampton in the delivery of training workshops on project development to support countries where SPS issues are identified as priorities to unleash export potential. On 1-4 August 2011, the STDF participated in a workshop in Bangui, Central African Republic (CAR). Three project concepts in the agri-food sector were identified and developed into logical frameworks by participants working in groups. Agriculture is the mainstay of the CAR's economy and has the highest potential for export expansion. The project concepts that were developed will be further elaborated and submitted to the EIF, STDF and/or other donors.

17. The STDF participated in the fifth PAN-SPSO (Participation of African Nations in Sanitary and Phytosanitary Standards-Setting Organizations) Steering Committee Meeting held on 12 August 2011 in Bamako, Mali. The objective of the PAN SPSO programme is to enhance the effective participation of African countries in the work of the international standard setting bodies (Codex, IPPC and OIE).⁴ Participants developed recommendations to guide the completion of activities before the end of the programme's implementation period in December 2011. A second phase of the

⁴ The PAN SPSO programme is funded by the European Union and implemented by the African Union Inter-African Bureau for Animal Resources (AU-IBAR), in collaboration with the African Union Inter-African Phytosanitary Council (AU-IAPSC).

PAN-SPSO programme is scheduled to start in 2012. At the meeting, preliminary findings of a draft external evaluation report of the programme were presented to the Committee.

18. The STDF also participated in a stakeholder workshop on the safety and quality of cinnamon on 7-8 July in Colombo, organized by the Spice Council of Sri Lanka in collaboration with UNIDO. This workshop was held in the context of an STDF PG focusing on the establishment of a national cinnamon training academy for cinnamon processors. Around 80 participants representing the private and public sector gathered to discuss constraints identified along the cinnamon value chain and agreed on the best options to provide assistance to the sector to enhance the safety and quality of Sri Lankan cinnamon, and hence its export potential. The resultant project will be considered by the Working Group at its meeting on 21 October 2011.

IV. PROJECT DEVELOPMENT

19. Project preparation grants (PPGs) are a key mechanism in STDF programme development and help overcome constraints faced by developing countries in the articulation of their needs. They also assist in ensuring synergies with other on-going initiatives, in particular Aid for Trade and the EIF, and in the mobilization of funds to implement activities. A total of 51 PPGs have been approved and funded by the STDF since its inception.

20. At the Working Group meeting in June 2011, three PPGs submitted by the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA) were approved and combined into one feasibility study to clarify the concept of the COMESA Green Pass and address technical / legal issues as well as the economic / commercial viability of this concept.⁵

V. PROJECT FUNDING

21. A total of 52 projects have been approved for STDF funding since its inception. In June 2011, the Working Group approved three new projects for funding:

- STDF/PG/321: Building trade capacity of small-scale shrimp and prawn farmers in Bangladesh - Investing in the Bottom of the Pyramid Approach
- STDF/PG/329: Enhancing the control of Sanitary and Phytosanitary capacity of Nepalese ginger exports through Public-Private Partnerships (for co-funding with the EIF) and;
- STDF/PG/336 Enhancing the control of transboundary animal diseases in Cameroon.

22. An overview of current STDF projects and PPGs is provided in the Annex. Since its inception, the STDF has devoted 49 per cent of project resources to LDCs and Other Low Income Countries (OLICs), as shown in Figure 1 below. Hence, the STDF continues to meet its target to devote at least 40 per cent of Facility project resources to LDCs and OLICs. Figure 2 indicates that 54 per cent of the number of STDF projects and PPGs has gone to Sub-Saharan Africa, 14 per cent to Latin America and the Caribbean, and 16 per cent to Asia. In addition, 12 per cent of STDF projects and PPGs can be classified as global.

⁵ STDF/PPG/346, STDF/PPG/347 and STDF/PPG/348.

Figure 1: STDF projects and PPGs (US\$)

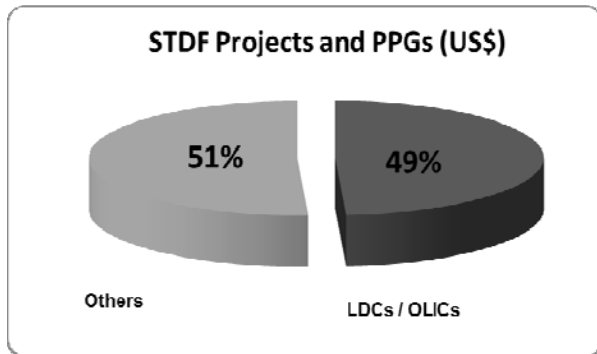
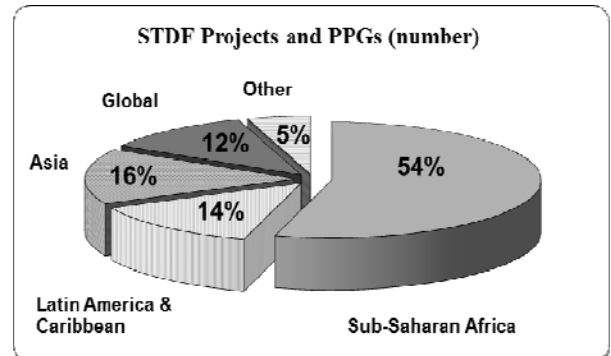


Figure 2: STDF Projects and PPGs (number)



23. Applications for STDF funding can be made at any point in the year but should be received at least 60 working days in advance of each Working Group meeting in order to be considered at that meeting. The next deadline for the submission of applications is 2 January 2012. Applicants are strongly encouraged to read the "Guidance Note for Applicants" available on the STDF website.

ANNEX

IMPLEMENTATION STATUS OF STDF PROJECTS AND PROJECT PREPARATION GRANTS

STATUS OF APPROVED PROJECTS

(a) Projects awaiting contracting

Ref. No.	Title	Objective	Beneficiary	Implementing entity/ person	Approval date	Start date	End date	Budget (US\$)
STDF/PG/302	Support to the cabbage sector in the Niayes Region of Senegal	Increase the production of cabbage and hence exports to the sub-region by controlling the spread and impact of two specific pests and assisting producers in meeting the Maximum Residue Limit established by Codex	Senegal	Senegal's Horticulture Union of the Niayes region (AUMN)	19-Mar-10	TBC	TBC	\$273,895
STDF/PG/309	Strengthening SPS capacity in Guinea-Bissau	Strengthening SPS capacity of technical services at national and regional level and updating SPS-related legislation	Guinea Bissau	EIF Project Implementation Unit	22-Oct-10	TBC	TBC	\$274,300
STDF/PG/321	Building trade capacity of small-scale shrimp and prawn farmers in Bangladesh	Organize small-scale farmers in manageable clusters and assist them in developing and adopting Better Management Practices (BMPs) to address the contamination problem at grass-roots level.	Bangladesh	FAO	27-Jun-11	TBC	TBC	\$568,750
STDF/PG/329	Enhancing Sanitary and Phytosanitary capacity of Nepalese ginger exports through Public Private Partnerships	Increase incomes of Nepalese stakeholders in the ginger value chain by adding value to the product exported to India and increasing capacity to access new markets.	Nepal	FAO	27-Jun-11	TBC	TBC	\$471,429

Ref. No.	Title	Objective	Beneficiary	Implementing entity/ person	Approval date	Start date	End date	Budget (US\$)
STDF/PG/336	Enhancing the control of transboundary animal diseases in Cameroon	Build institutional capacity and strengthen the capacity of the decentralized veterinary services - mainly those involved in the surveillance system.	Cameroon	FAO	27-Jun-11	TBC	TBC	\$498,330
STDF/PG/350	Global Phytosanitary Manuals, Standard Operating Procedures and Training Kits	Address the need in developing countries for documented technical resources to enhance their capacity to understand and implement International Standards on Phytosanitary Measures (ISPMs)	Côte D'Ivoire, Jamaica, Malaysia and Sudan	IPPC Secretariat	28-Mar-11	TBC	TBC	\$600,000

TBC: To be confirmed

(b) Ongoing projects

Ref. No.	Title	Objective	Beneficiary	Implementing entity/ person	Approval date	Start date	End date	Budget (US\$)
STDF/PG/116	Development and implementation of a traceability system in the livestock sector in Costa Rica	Develop a sustainable traceability system in the livestock sector which facilitates the management of information related to agricultural units and epidemiological events	Costa Rica	IICA	10-Oct-08	01-Mar-09	30-Jun-11	\$455,220
STDF/PG/126	Establish the Horticulture Development Council of Tanzania	Assist the Tanzanian horticulture sector to address SPS issues	Tanzania	Tanzania Horticulture Association (TAHA)	26-Jun-08	01-Jul-09	31-Aug-11	\$253,755
STDF/PG/155	Nicaragua market oriented training service on market application of SPS	Establish SPS professional training units, to develop training manuals, quality and good process controls for pilot products	Nicaragua	IICA	10-Oct-08	01-Jun-10	31-May-12	\$519,439

Ref. No.	Title	Objective	Beneficiary	Implementing entity/ person	Approval date	Start date	End date	Budget (US\$)
STDF/PG/172	Expanding exports of sesame seeds and sheanut/ butter through improved SPS capacity building for private and public sector	Identify critical control points and factors along the Nigerian shea nut production chain and develop predictive models for aflatoxin production and fungal growth, pesticide residues and other contaminants	Nigeria	Nigeria Export Promotion Council (NEPC)	10-Dec-09	01-Oct-10	30-Sep-12	\$324,240
STDF/PG/230	Establishment of Pest Free Areas for Lethal Yellowing Disease (LYD) in Coconuts in Mozambique	Build phytosanitary capacity to implement international standards to manage LYD in palms and thereby expand market access for coconuts	Mozambique	FAO	26-Jun-08	01-Jul-09	31-Jul-11	\$326,528
STDF/PG/238	Development of accredited HACCP certification schemes for processed food products	Implement accredited inspection and certificates for Good Manufacturing Practices and HACCP recognized by the competent authorities	Guatemala	AGEXPORT	27-Feb-09	01-Feb-10	30-Jan-12	\$398,225
STDF/PG/259	Strengthening Vietnamese SPS Capacities for Trade	Strengthen Vietnamese SPS capacities for trade by improving safety and quality for fresh vegetables through the value chain approach	Viet Nam	FAO/Fruit and Vegetable Research Institute (FAVRI)	26-Jun-09	01-Mar-10	29-Feb-12	\$476,580
STDF/PG/283	Support for SPS risk assessment in the mango export sector	Improve Mali's capacity to comply with international and private SPS standards in the mango sector	Mali	Agence National de la Sécurité Sanitaire des Aliments (ANSSA)	10-Dec-09	15-May-10	15-May-12	\$423,400

Ref. No.	Title	Objective	Beneficiary	Implementing entity/ person	Approval date	Start date	End date	Budget (US\$)
STDF/PG/284	Strengthening the National SPS Committee of Honduras	Strengthen the National SPS Committee of Honduras, further support the implementation of the National SPS Agenda (developed by the Committee) and consolidate and develop institutional SPS capacities	Honduras	Organismo Internacional Regional de Sanidad Agropecuaria (OIRSA)	19-Mar-10	01-Jul-10	30-Jun-12	\$257,580
STDF/PG/298	SPS capacity building in Africa to mitigate the harmful effects of pesticide residues in cocoa and to maintain market access	Build SPS capacity in Africa to produce good quality cocoa that complies with the relevant international regulations and legislation on pesticide residues and other harmful substances	Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, Nigeria, Togo	International Cocoa Organization	02-Jul-10	01-Jan-11	31-Dec-12	\$593,460
STDF/PG/300	Develop a combined e-learning curriculum and web-based information system for food standards	Develop a combined e-learning curriculum and information system on food standards as a contribution to up-grading the quality infrastructure in developing countries	Ghana	University of Cape Coast (UCC)	10-Dec-09	01-Dec-10	30-Nov-12	\$262,246
STDF/PG/318	National program for the monitoring and integral management of contaminants in export product	Establish a comprehensive program to control residues of pesticides and mycotoxins and implement this program for two pilot exportable products	Ecuador	IICA	19-Mar-10	01-Dec-10	30-Nov-12	\$400,455
STDF/PG/319	Strengthening the Food Safety Risk Assessment Unit in Colombia	Elaborate the functioning procedures of the Unit, establish its work programme and create a network of risk assessors to conduct future risk analyses	Colombia	IICA	02-Jul-10	01-Feb-11	31-Jan-13	\$401,500

Ref. No.	Title	Objective	Beneficiary	Implementing entity/ person	Approval date	Start date	End date	Budget (US\$)
STDF/PG/326	A Southeast Asian partnership to build trade capacity for fresh and processed fruit and vegetable products	Develop a competency-based education and training platform for selected value chains and provide customized training using a combination of face-to-face instruction and e-learning	Thailand, Vietnam	Michigan State University (MSU)	02-Jul-10	01-Jan-11	31-Dec-12	\$581,665
STDF/PG/328	Beyond Compliance: Integrated Systems Approach for Pest Risk Management in Southeast Asia	Develop and test new decision-support tools focused on an integrated Systems Approach for pest risk management in the Southeast Asian sub-region (support implementation of ISPM No. 14)	Southeast Asia	CABI Southeast Asia	28-Mar-11	11-Jul-11	10-Jul-13	\$600,000

STATUS OF APPROVED PROJECT PREPARATION GRANTS (PPGs)

(c) PPGs awaiting contracting

Ref. No.	Title	Objective	Beneficiary	Implementing entity/ person	Approval date	Start date	End date	Budget (US\$)
STDF/PPG/345	Project for Feed Safety Regulations in Latin America and Caribbean	Develop a project to harmonize feed safety regulations in Latin America and the Caribbean to ensure feed safety and increase competitiveness at national and regional levels	Latin America & Caribbean	TBD	28-Mar-11	TBC	TBC	\$30,000
STDF/PPG/346-347-348	Feasibility study on the concept of the COMESA Green Pass	Conduct a a feasibility study to clarify the concept of the Green Pass and address legal and technical issues as well as its economic and commercial viability.	COMESA	TBD	27-Jun-11	TBC	TBC	\$90,000

TBC: To be confirmed

(d) PPGs currently being implemented

Ref. No.	Title	Objective	Beneficiary	Implementing entity/ person	Approval date	Start date	End date	Budget (US\$)
STDF/PPG/232	A phytosanitary capacity building strategy for Africa	Improve phytosanitary capacity in African countries through the development and implementation of a phytosanitary capacity building strategy	Cameroon and other African countries	CABI (Centre for Agricultural Bioscience International)	26-Jun-08	01-Dec-08	Upon approval	\$29,000

Ref. No.	Title	Objective	Beneficiary	Implementing entity/ person	Approval date	Start date	End date	Budget (US\$)
STDF/PPG/303	Project preparation grant to conduct a total diet study for Sub-Saharan Africa	Elaborate a manual describing a methodology to conduct a regional TDS to evaluate the risks of chemical contamination of food	Sub-Saharan Africa	Centre Pasteur du Cameroun	26-Jun-09	12-Oct-09	31-Mar-11	\$20,000
STDF/PPG/308	Developing an SPS action plan for the Central African Republic (CAR)	Develop an SPS Action Plan for the CAR to enable the country to maximize its participation in the multilateral trading system through the protection of consumers from food safety risks, animal and plant health	Central African Republic	Mr Etienne Legendre	22-Oct-10	01-Jul-11	31-Dec-11	\$30,000
STDF/PPG/316	Strengthening phytosanitary inspection and diagnostic services in Azerbaijan	Strengthen the capacity of pre-border quarantine inspection points, notably through the provision of laboratory equipment and training of laboratory staff	Azerbaijan	IPPC/FAO	19-Mar-10	01-Dec-10	31-May-11	\$30,000
STDF/PPG/323	Enhancing the Safety and Quality of Agricultural Products in Senegal	Develop a project proposal to addresses the issue of pest surveillance and application of good agriculture practices to enhance Senegal's potential of horticultural exports	Senegal	IPPC/FAO	02-Jul-10	01-Mar-11	31-Aug-11	\$30,000
STDF/PPG/335	Strengthening the capacity for phytosanitary controls in the floriculture sector in Uganda	Develop a national surveillance programme to monitor and control pests affecting the sector in order to maintain and further enhance market access	Uganda	Hubertus Stoetzer	22-Oct-10	07-Feb-11	06-Aug-11	\$30,000

Ref. No.	Title	Objective	Beneficiary	Implementing entity/ person	Approval date	Start date	End date	Budget (US\$)
STDF/PPG/343	Establishment of a National Cinnamon Training Academy (NCTA) for Cinnamon Processors in the Southern Province	Develop a project to establish a National Cinnamon Training Academy (NCTA) to train the peelers in producing safe cinnamon of a high quality.	Sri Lanka	UNIDO	28-Mar-11	15-Jun-11	15-Dec-11	\$30,000
STDF/PPG/344	Establishment of a Regional Food Inspectors School in Central America	Develop a project to establish a regional food inspectors school to harmonize food inspection procedures and strengthen the technical competence and skills of food inspectors within the region	Central America	Ms Ana Marisa Cordero	28-Mar-11	01-Aug-11	31-Dec-11	\$30,000

Agrifood Standards and Trade

SPS Toolkit and CBT Study

STDF Working Group Meeting
21 October 2011



Agrifood Standards – Ensuring Compliance Increases Trade for Developing Countries (ASEC)

Presentation by NRI

- Ulrich Kleih: SPS Toolkit – Causal Chain Analysis, Value Chain Analysis and Cost Benefit Analysis;
- Hanneke Lam: SPS Toolkit – Institutional Analysis and Strengthening of SPS Coordination Systems;
- Dr Diego Naziri: Commodity Based Trade / Namibia project;
- Andrew Edewa – UNIDO, Nairobi, and PhD student at NRI; contributed to SPS toolkit development.

ASEC Programme - Overview

- Supported by DFID Policy Division
- Three components
 - Public sector standards (e.g., Impact assessment of notifications – case studies; SPS toolkit to strengthen SPS coordination systems, assess the impact of SPS notifications, and analyse control measures);
 - Private standards (e.g., GLOBALGAP; National Technical Working Groups; National Interpretation Guidelines);
 - Commodity Based Trade (e.g., Namibia case study on the feasibility of meat exports from the Caprivi strip). See separate presentation.

[ASEC Introduction](#) – Overview Toolkit – Component I – Component II – Component III - Component IV – Toolkit Challenges and Way Forward – CBT

Public sector standards: SPS Toolkit

Ulrich Kleih and Hanneke Lam



Toolkit components

- I. Institutional Analysis and Strengthening of SPS Coordination Mechanisms
- II. Causal Chain Analysis and Sustainability Impact Assessment of SPS notifications
- III. Value Chain Analysis
- IV. Cost Benefit Analysis of Control Measures

Toolkit (I): Institutional Analysis and Strengthening of SPS Coordination Mechanisms

Part I aims to strengthen coordination between and amongst:

- Public sector, private sector and civil society
 - National, regional, international and local level
 - Food Safety, Animal Health and Plant Health
- In compliance with WTO SPS Agreement

Well-functioning coordination systems are key for increasing trade and enhancing food safety, animal health and plant health:

- Improve communication of SPS matters, including notifications
- Help to identify gaps/overlaps in stakeholders' mandates
- Raise country's/region's ability to discuss and negotiate SPS matters at national and international forums
- Increase ability to interact with International Standard Setting Bodies: CAC, OIE, IPPC
- Minimise duplication of efforts
- Contribute to reduction of costs

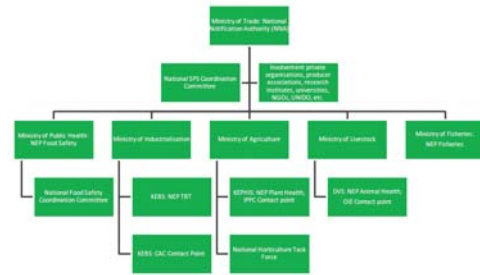
Toolkit provides methods and techniques to:

- Acquire better understanding of SPS institutional environment by mapping out:
 - (inter)national stakeholders related to food safety, animal health, plant health
 - their mutual relationships
 - regulatory system in which they are embedded
- Assess key elements within SPS coordination mechanisms
- Find solutions to overcome identified challenges
- Develop strategies to turn ideas for improvement into action

Tools and techniques (1)

I. Map the institutional environment

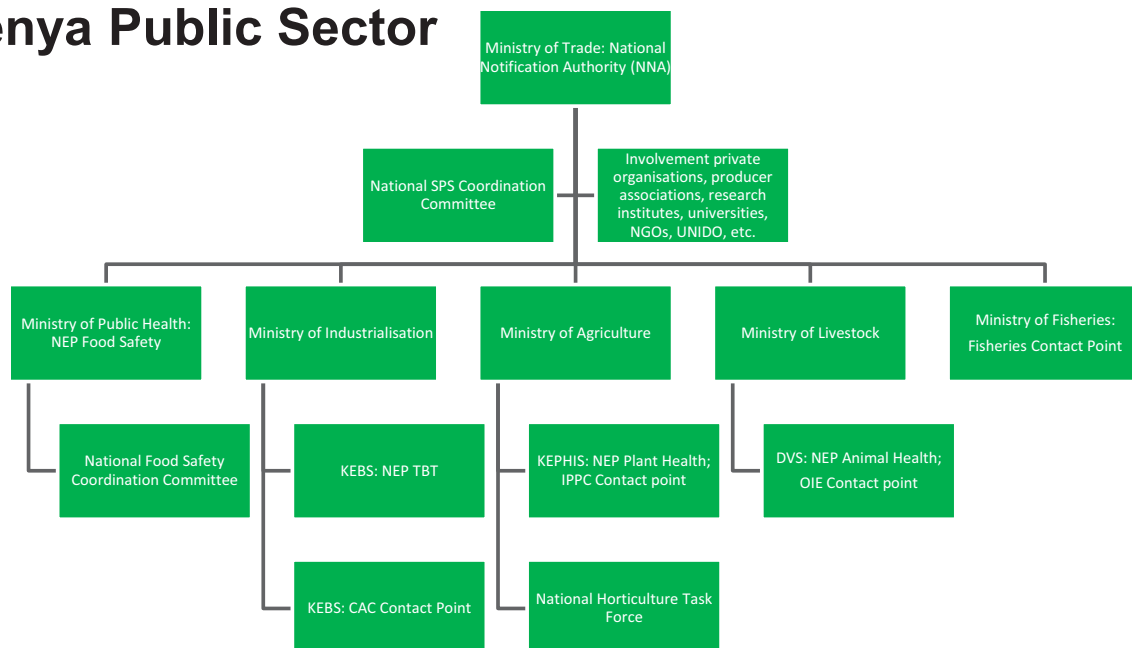
- Stakeholder Analysis
- Visual Mapping (e.g. Venn-Diagram)
- Design of a communication flow chart



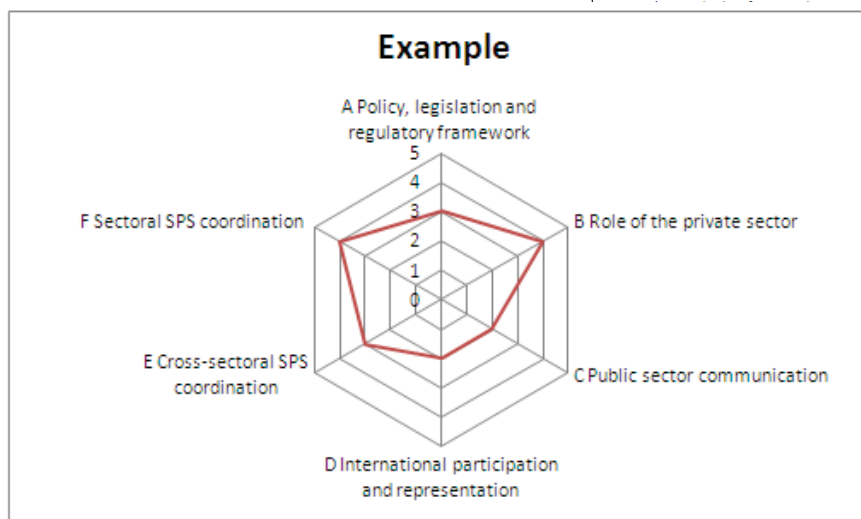
II. Assess key elements within SPS coordination system

- SWOT analysis of key stakeholders:
 - Human, financial, technical resources (internal)
 - Enabling environment (external)
- Rating performance of coordination mechanisms:
 - SPS Policy and stakeholders' participation
 - Communication and interlinkages

Mapping example: Interlinkages SPS stakeholders Kenya Public Sector



Example performance rating exercise



A. Policy, Legislation and Regulatory Framework	Circle your score
Section A aims to assess the country's legal and regulatory framework in place: the laws, acts and regulations which are designed to govern SPS issues. A conducive regulatory framework starts with high-level buy-in: It is essential that Government officials, especially senior politicians, support and guide the development of efficient SPS coordination mechanisms. This includes the legal and regulatory framework, but also other aspects such as the coordination between concerned Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs), and availability of resources (human, financial and technical). Whether the coordination system needs profound changes and re-design, or only small improvements, all cases require awareness rising (up to the highest levels) on the importance of SPS and the potential impact of related measures on trade and the wider economy. Once this is accomplished, SPS coordination should be integrated into policy and legislation. This is a complicated task as not only many SPS issues are identified require coordination between environmental policy, private sector policy is developed in accordance with	
...commitment of senior Government	Rating
...integrated SPS coordination?	5 4 3 2 1 0
...nation integrated into policy and phytosanitary policy which provides S issues in a holistic manner)?	Rating
...5 4 3 2 1 0	
...re laws, acts and regulations within id safety, animal health and plant	Rating
...5 4 3 2 1 0	
...regulations reflecting international	Rating
...5 4 3 2 1 0	
...policy stipulate which Ministries, sponsible for the enforcement of PS matters?	Rating
...5 4 3 2 1 0	
...extent are research institutes or lopor improve SPS related policy,	Rating
...5 4 3 2 1 0	
<i>Total score for section A</i>	
<i>or section A (divide total score by 6)</i>	
Comments	

Tools and techniques (2)

III. Recommendations and strategy development to overcome identified institutional gaps

- Problem Tree Analysis
- Development of a strategy as a targeted approach

IV. Development and implementation of action plan and/or project

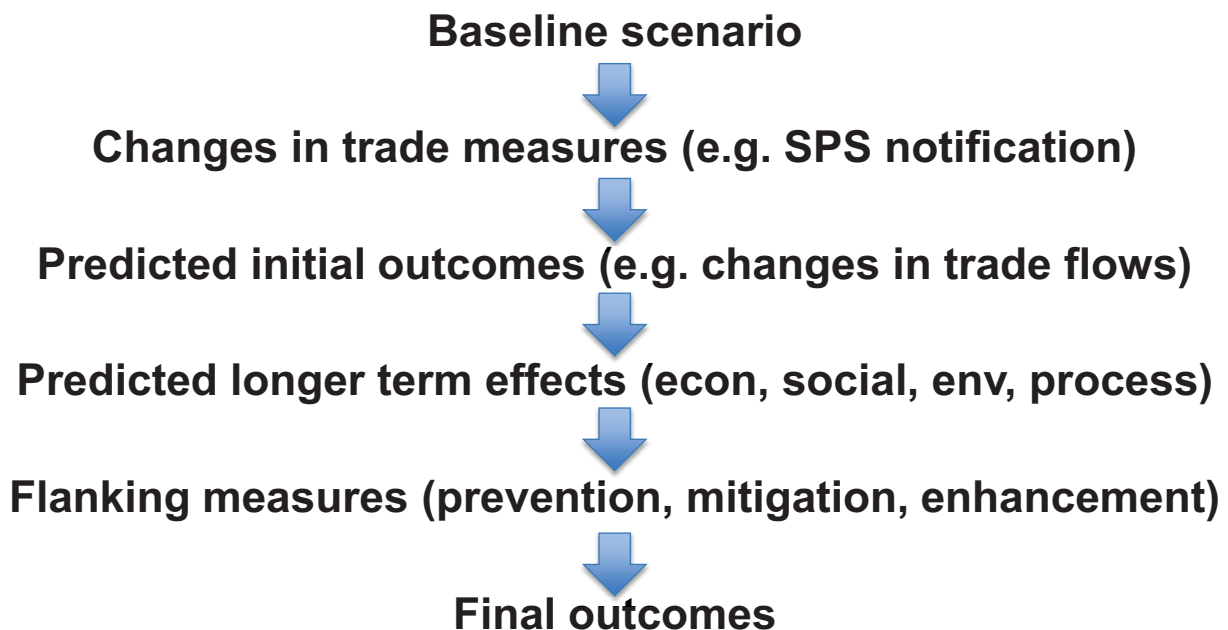
- Development of an Action Plan
- Logical Framework Approach
- Development of a Project Proposal

V. Monitoring and evaluation

Coordination: Novel approach

- The SPS Toolkit recognises existing SPS Capacity Evaluation Tools, which are widely adopted and applied (e.g. OIE PVS, IPPC PCE, IICA PVS Tools, etc)
- Part I of the Toolkit complements these as it aims to:
 - address (inter)national SPS coordination, and communication between public and private sector organisations in a more holistic manner
 - help develop a regulatory framework which facilitates integrated and conducive SPS policy in accordance with WTO SPS agreement
 - put project management tools in an SPS context: from analysis of current situation to implementation of action plans and projects

Toolkit (II): Causal Chain Analysis and Sustainability Impact Assessment of SPS notifications



Toolkit (III): Value Chain Analysis in an SPS context

- Most goods and services are the result of a sequence of activities > value chain;
- Some key concepts of value chain analysis (VCA):
governance; benchmarking; innovation & upgrading;
positioning of the product and the value chain;
- Why value chain analysis is important in an SPS context:
 - to upgrade the value chain and position the product at a higher level, i.e. access markets where higher prices can be fetched.

Tools and techniques used for VCA

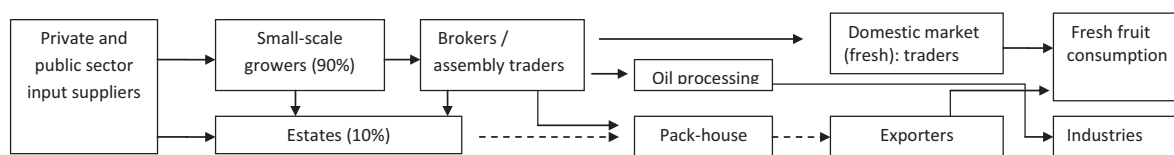
- Checklist for assessing SPS compliance > understanding:
 - The market (e.g., price premiums for SPS compliance)
 - Value chain and SPS requirements
 - Costs and benefits of control measures
 - Service requirements and providers;
- Mapping the chain > functioning of the chain in terms of end-markets, actors, and their functions;
- Identification of SPS related issues and control measures;
- Financial implications for farmers and other actors in chain;
- Improved SPS service delivery.

Value chain map - example

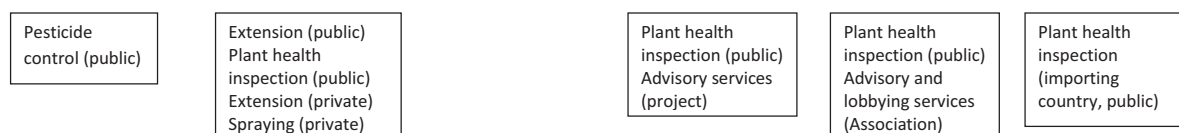
Stages in the Value Chain – Overview of functions



Detailed map of sub-channels and actors within the chain (example)



Map of SPS related service providers and their roles (example)



Toolkit (IV): Cost Benefit Analysis of Control Measures

- Two models: (a) short version; (b) long version;
- Incremental cash-flow analysis for private and public sectors;
- Financial indicators: Net Present Value (NPV), and Internal Rate of Return (IRR);
- Short version: additional sales on export or local markets; cost of control measures; other additional costs (pre & p-h);
- Long version:
 - Comparison of all sales and costs for situations with and without SPS control measures;
 - Analysis of three production systems / value chains possible;
 - Sensitivity analysis (i.e. change of key variables);
 - Currency conversion of summary results possible.

Cost-Benefit Analysis of SPS Measures (Plant Health) - Short Version of Model

Overall Overview

Browse Worksheets

Summary of Results

Private sector

Benefits & Costs of Control Measures

Benefits of Control Measures

Costs of Control Measures

Cost of Control Measure 1

Cost of Control Measure 2

Cost of Control Measure 3

Additional Production and Post-harvest Costs

Additional Production Costs

Additional Post-harvest Costs

Residual Value of Investments

Public sector

Additional Income and Costs

Public sector - Additional Income

Public sector - Additional Costs (Pre-harvest)

Public sector - Additional Costs (Post-harvest)

Public sector - Residual Value of Investments

For results in US Dollars, see below

Rate	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
8.416.000	658.416.000	658.416.000	658.416.000	658.416.000	658.416.000	658.416.000	658.416.000
0.000.000	- 120.000.000	- 120.000.000	- 120.000.000	- 120.000.000	- 120.000.000	- 120.000.000	- 120.000.000
4.480.000	4.480.000	4.480.000	4.480.000	4.480.000	4.480.000	4.480.000	4.480.000
7.000.000	17.000.000	17.000.000	17.000.000	17.000.000	17.000.000	17.000.000	17.000.000
4.000.000	144.000.000	144.000.000	144.000.000	144.000.000	144.000.000	144.000.000	144.000.000
7.200.000	7.200.000	7.200.000	7.200.000	7.200.000	7.200.000	7.200.000	7.200.000
0.000.000	120.000.000	120.000.000	120.000.000	120.000.000	120.000.000	120.000.000	120.000.000
5.736.000	245.736.000	245.736.000	237.736.000	245.736.000	245.736.000	245.736.000	245.736.000
960.000	960.000	960.000	960.000	960.000	960.000	960.000	960.000
2.125.000	2.125.000	2.125.000	6.125.000	2.125.000	2.125.000	2.125.000	2.125.000
0.000.000	4.890.000	4.890.000	4.890.000	4.890.000	4.890.000	4.890.000	4.890.000
376.895.000	239.681.000	239.681.000	239.681.000	227.681.000	239.681.000	239.681.000	239.681.000

Private sector Public and private sector

Net present value 560,684,503 487,992,826

Internal rate of return 77.3% 62.6%

Conversion of results into US Dollars

Currency used Kshs

Exchange rate to the US Dollar 89

	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Benefits (Increased exports)	-	7,397,933	7,397,933	7,397,933	7,397,933	7,397,933	7,397,933	7,397,933	7,397,933
Benefits (Increased local market)	-	1,348,315	1,348,315	1,348,315	1,348,315	1,348,315	1,348,315	1,348,315	1,348,315
Costs (control measure 1: pre-harvest)	50,337	50,337	50,337	50,337	50,337	50,337	50,337	50,337	50,337
Costs (control measure 2: pre-harvest)	449,438	191,011	191,011	191,011	191,011	280,899	191,011	191,011	191,011
Costs (control measure 3: post-harvest)	1,617,978	1,617,978	1,617,978	1,617,978	1,617,978	1,617,978	1,617,978	1,617,978	1,617,978
Additional costs (production)	80,899	80,899	80,899	80,899	80,899	80,899	80,899	80,899	80,899

Cost Benefit Analysis – Long Model, Home Page

ASEC - Theme A: Toolkit to Assess the Costs and Benefits of SPS Control Measures (CM) in the Plant Hea

		Home Page		
		Browse Worksheets		
		Overall Overview		
		Summary - Overall		
Production systems		Traditional: A	Semi-intensive: B	Intensive: C
		CM – Control Measures		
		Summary of results: A		
		Summary of results: B		
		Summary of results: C		
Private sector	Sales	Sales - no CM	Sales - no CM	Sales - no CM
		Export Domestic market	Export Domestic market	Export Domestic market
		Sales - with CM	Sales - with CM	Sales - with CM
		Export Domestic market	Export Domestic market	Export Domestic market
		Production costs - no CM	Production costs - no CM	Production costs - no CM
		Production costs - with CM	Production costs - with CM	Production costs - with CM
	Costs	Post-harvest costs - no CM	Post-harvest costs - no CM	Post-harvest costs - no CM
		Post-harvest costs - with CM	Post-harvest costs - with CM	Post-harvest costs - with CM
		Residual value of investments - no CM	Residual value of investments - no CM	Residual value of investments - no CM
		Residual value of investments - with CM	Residual value of investments - with CM	Residual value of investments - with CM
		Additional income due to control measures	Additional income due to control measures	Additional income due to control measures
		Additional income - with CM	Additional income - with CM	Additional income - with CM
Public sector	Additional costs due to control measures	Additional costs due to control measures	Additional costs due to control measures	
	Production costs - with CM	Production costs - with CM	Production costs - with CM	
	Post-harvest costs - with CM	Post-harvest costs - with CM	Post-harvest costs - with CM	
	Residual value of investments	Residual value of investments	Residual value of investments	
	Additional costs due to control measures	Additional costs due to control measures	Additional costs due to control measures	
	Production costs - with CM	Production costs - with CM	Production costs - with CM	
Post-harvest costs - with CM	Post-harvest costs - with CM	Post-harvest costs - with CM		
Residual value of investments	Residual value of investments	Residual value of investments		

ASEC Introduction – Overview Toolkit – Component I – Component II – Component III - Component IV – Toolkit Challenges and Way Forward – CBT

SPS Toolkit: Challenges and way forward

- Availability of data (some data may be confidential, some may be time-consuming to collect);
- User-friendliness of model;
- Staff may lack understanding of financial calculations;
 - Guidance notes are required (currently being produced).
- Way forward
 - Feedback and evaluation required;
 - Packaging of toolkit (soft and hard copies);
 - Dissemination, awareness raising and mentoring activities.

Thank you

ASEC Introduction – Overview Toolkit – Component I – Component II – Component III - Component IV – [Toolkit Challenges and Way Forward](#) – CBT



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FS 54723
ISO 9001

Commodity Based Trade

Economic implications for the Caprivi region in Namibia

STDF Working Group Meeting

21 October 2011

Dr. Diego Naziri

E-mail: d.naziri@gre.ac.uk

Commodity Based Trade (CBT)

OIE standards prevent the spread of diseases across the globe

Traditional focus on the recognition of disease-free status

Disease-free zones and disease-free compartments

CBT: different commodities present different levels of risks

Progressively applied in the *TAHC* on a disease by disease basis

Import of fresh beef from a country infected with FMD (Art. 8.5.25)

- Official control programme for FMD with compulsory systematic vaccination
- Animals vaccinated at least twice
- Past 30 days with no FMD outbreak within a 10 km radius
- Deboning and deglanding of the carcass
- Maturation of the carcass for at least 24 hours (pH below 6)

Constraints to wider acceptance

Reluctance to trade in commodities from infected countries

Still uncertainties (Paton et al., 2009) > Further research

The *Code* should be read, used and applied in its entire context to assist decision-making

Importing countries can be reluctant to trust certification

CBT is not an alternative to good veterinary governance

Aim of the study

Translate the CBT concept into practice for one specific product (deboned beef) from a specific region of the developing world in which substantive trading opportunities with specific trading partners have been identified.

- What benefits from new market access opportunities?
- What additional costs incurred by the different stakeholders?
- Are these costs justified?
- How might CBT change the pattern of beef export from the Caprivi region?

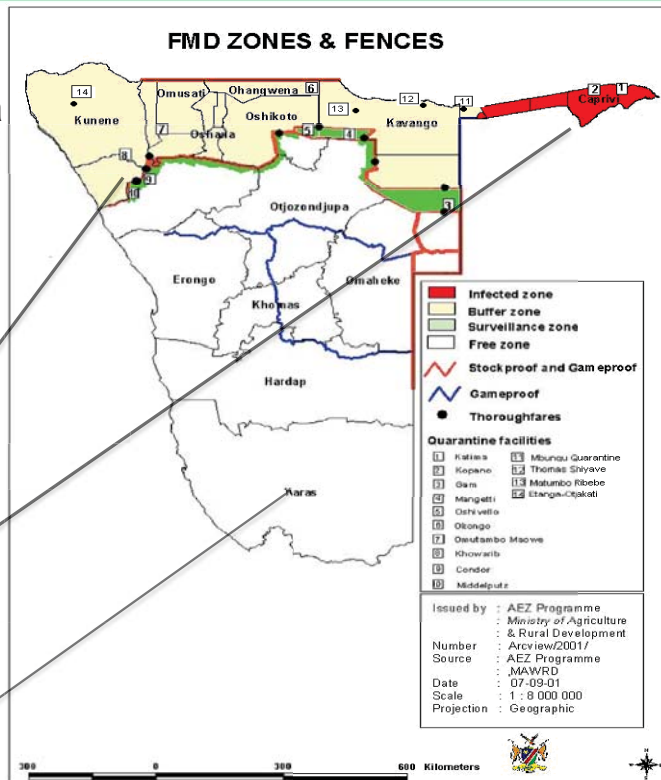
Rationale for the Caprivi region

- Beef industry is strategic for Namibia
- FMD status and zoning
- In the middle of KAZA-TFCA

Communal areas
150,000 HH (55% with cattle)
1.1 mln cattle (increasing)
Off-take rate: 2%

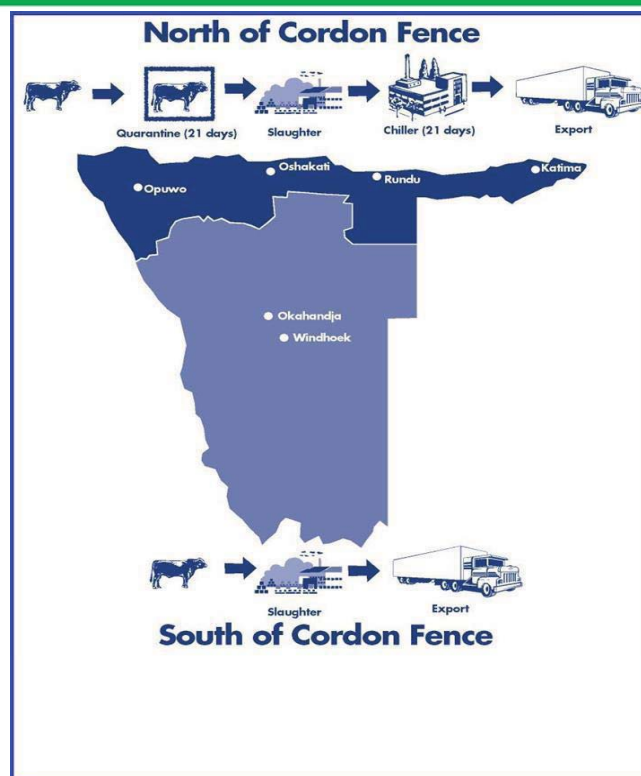
Communal areas
12,000 HH (75% with cattle)
150,000 cattle (increasing)
Off-take rate: 4%

Commercial sector
4,000 farmers
1 mln cattle (declining)
Off-take rate: 20 – 25%



Rationale for the Caprivi region

- Beef industry is strategic for Namibia
- FMD status and zoning
- In the middle of KAZA-TFCA
- Risk mitigation measures in place
- Approved CA and residues plan
- Traceability (FANMEAT)
- On going MCA funded project on CBT



Who we are



D. Naziri - B. Bennett

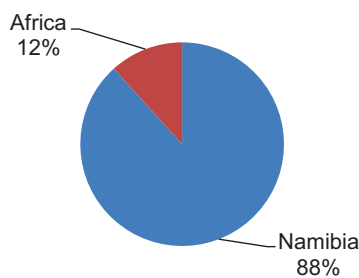


K. Rich (Norwegian School of Veterinary Science; Norwegian Institute of International Affairs)

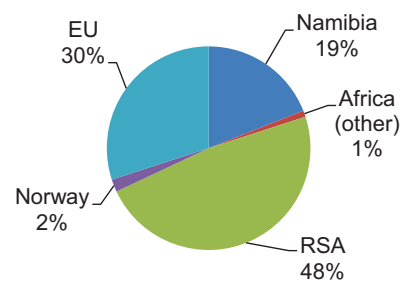


Expected benefits

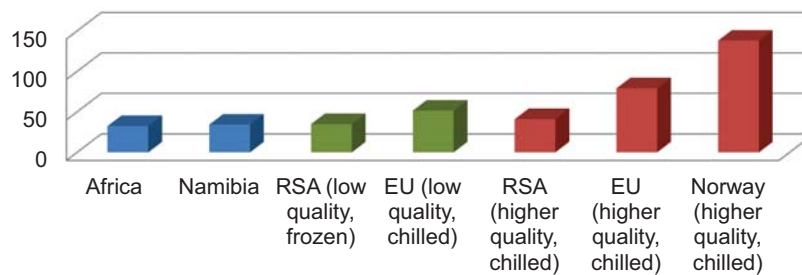
Caprivi - Destination markets (% volume)



SVF - Destination markets (% volume)



Price comparison for striploin (N\$/Kg)



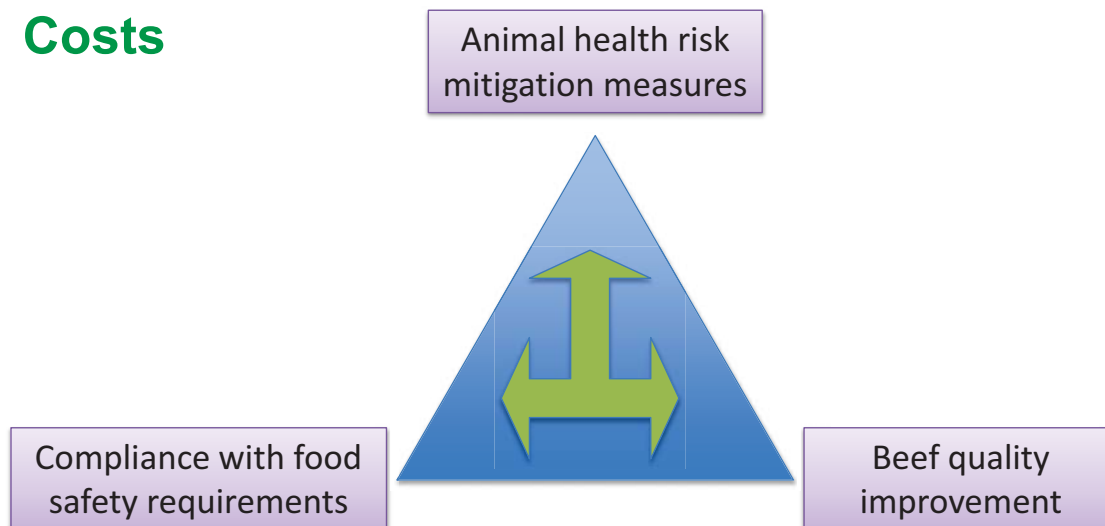
Expected benefits

- Trade diversion to more lucrative markets
- Increase the throughput of the abattoir
- Higher price paid to producers and decrease in cross-subsidization

Other benefits and spill-over effects (not included in analysis)

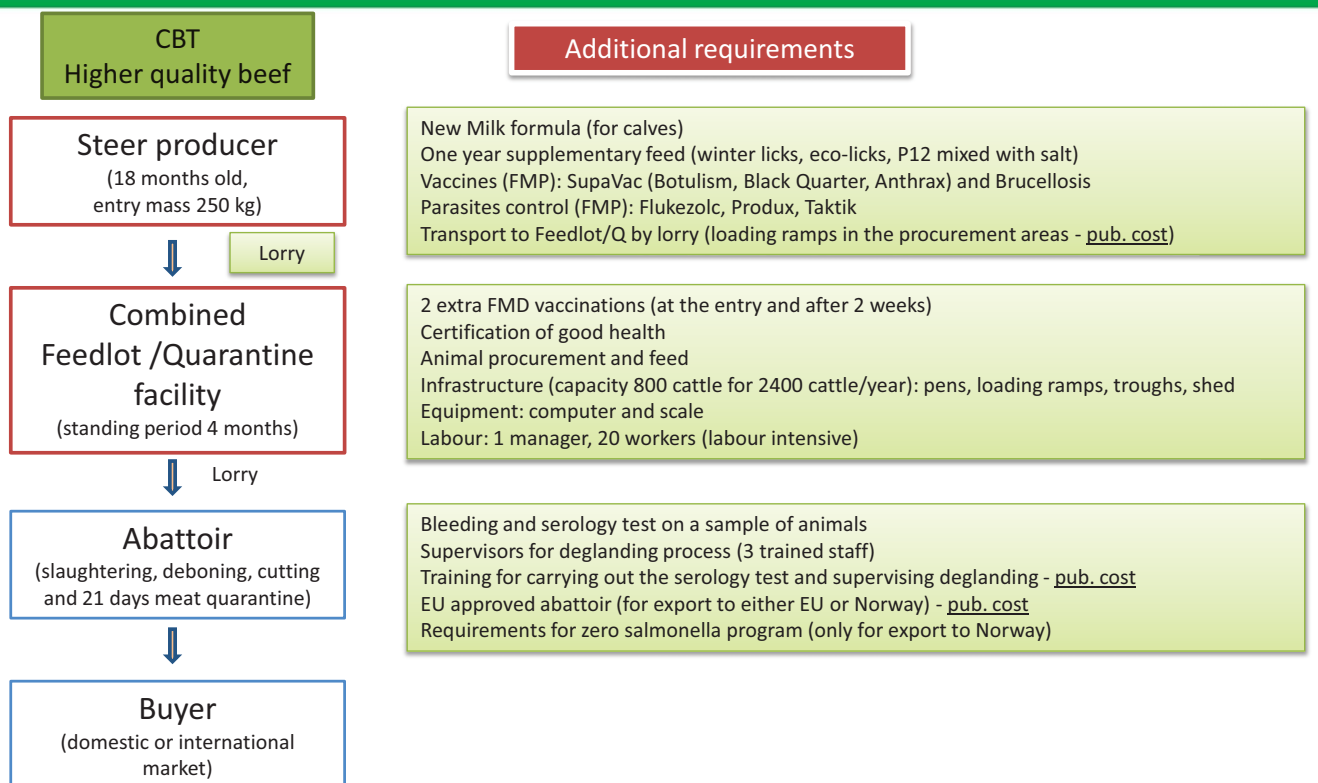
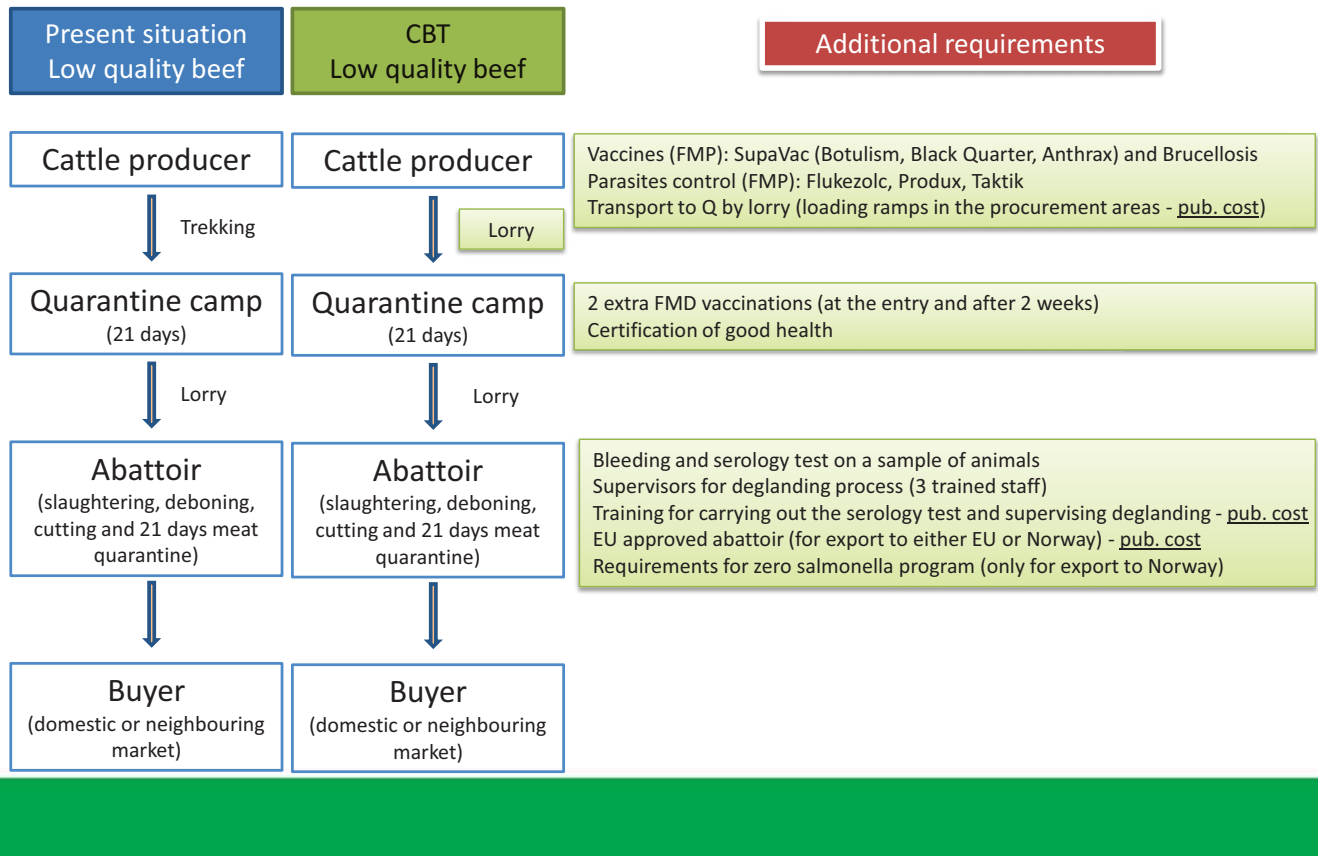
- Possibility of value addition
- Employment creation
- Decrease in cattle population and pressure on natural resources
- Increased tax earnings
- Enhanced compatibility wildlife conservation and ecotourism policies

Costs



Some costs are products and/or markets specific

Who incurs these additional costs? Private and public sector



System Dynamics model: why?

Simulation technique to analyze the behavior of complex systems over time

It can compute the evolution of costs and benefits from each step of the process

It allows to understand the feasibility of SPS compliance and identify other constraints for competitive meat exports

It allows to easily conduct sensitivity and scenario analysis

It is a powerful tool to deal with the problem of uncertainty (no change in current FMD management system foreseeable in the short to medium term)

Thank you

SUMMARY REPORT OF THE STDF WORKING GROUP MEETING

21 October 2011

WTO, Geneva

1. Adoption of Agenda

1. The meeting was chaired by Mr Thomas Westcot from the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA).
2. The Secretariat requested to add under agenda item 2. Operation of the Facility, a sub-item d) Election of chairperson and vice-chairperson. The agenda was approved with this amendment. A list of participants is provided in **Annex 1**.

2. Operation of the Facility

(a) Staffing issues

3. The Secretariat informed the Working Group that Mr Pablo Jenkins had been selected to fill the post of Economic Affairs Officer (Grade 7) in the STDF Secretariat, following an internal recruitment process, and Ms Chenai Mukumba had been hired as a consultant to work on the STDF Virtual Library for a period of four months (September - December 2011).

(b) Financial situation

4. The Secretariat reported on the financial situation of the STDF and commented on the information and figures in the annotated agenda ([STDF/WG/Oct11/Annotated agenda](#)). The financial situation of the STDF is currently healthy and there is continued interest among donors to contribute to the STDF. The financial situation for the following years will be presented and discussed during the Policy Committee in December.

5. Denmark flagged that it will contribute to the STDF in 2011 (around US\$370,000). Shortly following the circulation of the annotated agenda, STDF contributions were also received from Germany and Japan. The Secretariat thanked all members for their contributions in 2011.

(c) Policy Committee meeting 2011

6. The Secretariat reported that the agenda for the Policy Committee meeting on Friday, 9 December 2011 had been circulated. The objective of this meeting will be to endorse the new Medium-Term Strategy and the revised STDF Operational Rules. The Working Group agreed to the draft agenda.

(d) Election of chair-person and vice-chairperson

7. The Secretariat noted that the current vice-chair of the Working Group (the OIE) would not be able to take up the position of chair in 2012. The Secretariat explained that there was therefore a need to elect both a chair and vice-chair for 2012 and requested that interested Members inform the Secretariat before the Policy Committee meeting in December 2011. The list of candidates will be circulated to the Working Group so that the views of other Members will be taken into account in the decision-making process.

3. High quality tools and information resources (output 1)

(a) Pilot testing work on the development and use of the MCDA methodology

8. The Secretariat briefed the Working Group on STDF's MCDA work in Africa and introduced a background note for the continuation of this work in another region in 2012. A second pilot (following Mozambique in April 2011) was conducted in Zambia in the first week of July 2011. A regional training workshop was held on 16 and 17 August in Johannesburg to: (i) present the MCDA approach and draft guidebook developed by the consultant, Spencer Henson; (ii) share the experiences of the applications in Mozambique and Zambia; and (iii) train selected SPS experts in Africa on the MCDA approach. Preparations to apply the MCDA tool in Malawi, with the financial support of USAID, are underway.

9. Members expressed their support for the application of the MCDA framework in one additional country in 2012, in either Asia or Latin America, and for the organization of one regional workshop, within the context of the draft STDF Work Plan for 2012. Some Members proposed to carry out this work in Asia. Following a query, the Secretariat clarified that Belize had submitted a separate application to implement the MCDA methodology as a PPG. The WTO suggested to consider collaborating with IICA to assist in the dissemination of information on the MCDA methodology in Latin America at a regional level. The Secretariat requested the Working Group to provide written suggestions for the location of the next MCDA pilot test so that the final decision could be communicated by, or possibly before, the next meeting in March.

10. The African representative highlighted that the MCDA tool presented at the Johannesburg workshop provided a very useful perspective that reinforced the application of capacity evaluation tools for countries in Africa and suggested to incorporate this topic into the programme of the regional event with the African Union and the Regional Economic Communities. The Secretariat noted that AU-IBAR is interested to disseminate the MCDA approach to its network of stakeholders, and that it would provide information and guidance in this regard.

(b) Planned global level event on international trade and invasive alien species

11. The Secretariat informed the Working Group on the progress made in preparations for this seminar, to be held on Monday 9 July 2012, on the margins of the WTO SPS Committee meeting. Work has started on the identification of case studies to be presented at the meeting and discussions have taken place with the IPPC and OIE on the content of the background study and the consultant's terms of reference. The Seminar was announced on the news items on the STDF website. A dedicated webpage including background material and more information on the seminar will be prepared in the coming weeks. The seminar will be open to SPS delegates and external participants within the limit of seating capacity. A registration mechanism together with a provisional programme will be published closer to the event.

(c) Proposed regional event with the African Union and RECs on their role and function in SPS

12. The Secretariat introduced a background note on a proposed regional meeting, to be organized jointly with the African Union Commission (AUC) in the first half of 2012 in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. The purpose of the meeting would be to further discuss and agree on how to implement recommendations in the STDF study on Regional SPS Frameworks and Strategies in Africa, prepared for the AUC in 2010. In particular, the following issues would be addressed: (i) role and function of the AUC and the RECs in adding value to SPS coordination and capacity building initiatives at the continental, regional and national level; and (ii) institutional SPS framework in Africa relating to the AUC, its technical agencies and the RECs, including the establishment of a continental SPS working group.

13. The Working Group supported the proposal for the STDF Secretariat to work on this topic and emphasized that collaboration with the AUC could facilitate tangible progress in this area. Reservations were expressed on holding a high-level meeting without prior preparatory meetings. It

was noted that it would be more efficient and productive to organize a few technical meetings in order to prepare concrete proposals, such as a draft work plan to implement the recommendations of the STDF study or formulate the terms of reference for the continental SPS working group, before a high level meeting could be envisioned. Concrete expected results should be detailed.

14. Technical meetings could be held on the margins of other SPS-related events such as: (i) PAN-SPSO Phase II Steering Committee meetings which will likely include participation of the RECs and the three sisters; (ii) the EU-funded African Veterinary Governance Programme meeting to be launched in January 2012 at AU-IBAR back to back with the final evaluation of the Support Programme to Integrated National Action Plans for Avian and Human Influenza (SPINAP-AHI).

15. The Working Group agreed that the Secretariat would continue work on the background document together with the AUC and STDF partners, and report to the Working Group in March. The Secretariat should also envisage other possible financial/in-kind contributions.

(c) STDF studies / publications

16. The Secretariat informed the Working Group that two STDF publications: (i) SPS-Related Capacity Evaluation Tools: An Overview of Tools Developed by International Organizations (second edition); and (ii) Climate Change and Trade: The Link to Sanitary and Phytosanitary Standards, had been completed, circulated via the STDF e-mailing list, and made available on the STDF website. Two other publications are currently under finalization: (i) Public-Private Partnerships in support of SPS capacity (with the Inter-American Development Bank); and (ii) National SPS Coordination Mechanisms (with the Natural Resources Institute).

17. The Secretariat informed the Working Group that the STDF film "Trading Safely" has been translated into Arabic, Chinese and Russian. DVDs are being produced and the new language versions are available on the STDF website.

18. Some Members expressed concern about the amount of time and effort that the Secretariat is spending on these studies/publications. Other Members, however, recognized that such publications are the next logical step to disseminate the results of collaborative cross-cutting thematic events and that it would be difficult to find another way to do so.

4. Dissemination of experiences and good practices (output 2)

(a) STDF website / development of STDF Virtual Library

19. The Secretariat informed the Working Group that the first phase of the Virtual Library, which consisted of the elaboration of functional specifications and the development of a prototype of the system, took place between August and September 2011. This work was done by an external consultant, in close consultation with WTO's IT Division. The budget allocated to the STDF Virtual Library was US\$75,000 and the first phase had cost approximately CHF 30,000. The second phase of the project, which will look at the final development of the system, will start in a few weeks. The project will be completed by early 2012 and the system will be presented to the Working Group for comments and suggestions.

20. In response to a query the Secretariat responded that in the past it had been able to identify the number of users accessing the STDF website per year and welcomed the suggestion to analyse regularly which are the most viewed pages, number of documents downloaded and other web statistics.

(b) Preparation of STDF newsletter

21. The Secretariat shared the results of a survey on the STDF newsletter circulated to the participants in the SPS Committee. The feedback received was positive but only 20 completed surveys were returned. About 90 per cent of respondents would prefer an electronic copy of the newsletter to a paper copy.

22. The Secretariat also informed the Working Group that it will be using "Survey Monkey", an online survey tool, to conduct its surveys in the future. The first experiment with this new service will be the creation of a survey on the STDF Newsletter to be sent electronically to the Working Group and to users of the STDF electronic distribution list.

(c) (Planned) training / information sessions organized by partner

23. The Secretariat informed the Working Group that since its last meeting in July 2011, it had participated in the following training / information sessions: (i) WTO/IDB Regional SPS seminar for Caribbean Countries (26-26 July, Barbados); (ii) WTO 2011 SPS Advanced Course (13 October, Geneva); and (iii) WTO Workshop on SPS Coordination at National and Regional Levels (17 October, Geneva).

24. The Secretariat was also requested to participate in three regional WTO SPS seminars on 15-18 November in Mali for French-speaking Africa; on 22-25 November in Kenya for English speaking Africa; and on 27-30 November in Qatar for Arab and Middle East countries. No invitations from other partners were received.

(d) Reports to SPS Committee and Codex/OIE/IPPC meetings

25. The Secretariat informed the Working Group that it had submitted reports on its activities to the 34th Codex Alimentarius Commission (July 2011) and to the WTO SPS Committee (October 2011) ([G/SPS/GEN/1114](#)).

(e) Presentation by the Natural Resources Institute (NRI)

26. Ulrich Kleih, Hanneke Lam, Diego Naziri and Andrew Edewa from the NRI gave two presentations on the following activities implemented under its "Agrifood Standards Programme": (i) the SPS Toolkit; and (ii) commodity-based trade and the results of a case study in Namibia. The Agrifood programme has three components: (i) Public sector standards (e.g. Impact assessment of notifications - case studies; the SPS toolkit to strengthen SPS coordination systems, assess the impact of SPS notifications, and analyse control measures); (ii) Private standards (e.g. GLOBALGAP; National Technical Working Groups; National Interpretation Guidelines) and; (iii) Commodity Based Trade (e.g. Namibia case study on the feasibility of meat exports from the Caprivi strip).

27. In response to queries, the NRI further clarified that the model presented could be used within a different context by different countries. It will be used in collaboration with local stakeholders for sustainability reasons. This model may contain overlaps with the work of other organizations at the lower level analysis but the main intention of this programme is to focus primarily on the overall coordination and communication of national SPS systems to subsequently recommend strategies as well as package project logical framework and action plans to hopefully result in projects. The programme will also look at the effects of control measures in the private and public sector in terms of additional income and costs with regards to how this is reflected in additional indicators.

28. The NRI further added that the toolkit does not only identify weak areas for support by donors but can also be used by policy makers to assist in budgeting and the allocation of budget to support their national programmes and SPS control area surveillance. The toolkit will be made

widely available and the information pertaining to a specific country will be made public given permission from local authorities.

(f) Presentation by the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO)

29. Ali Badarneh made a presentation on UNIDO's work in trade-related capacity building, national quality infrastructure and food safety. In response to queries from Members, Mr Badarneh clarified that UNIDO's mandate is clearly focused on food safety (not SPS in general) and that UNIDO is keen to improve coordination of its work with FAO. In an effort to achieve this, UNIDO and FAO had a productive meeting on the margins of the STDF Working Group. He highlighted that synergies could be found between UNIDO activities and STDF projects. For instance, UNIDO could provide funding for laboratories and equipment that STDF funding does not cover.

30. UNIDO clarified that it does not promote private standards but aims to assist producers to meet market access requirements regardless of the origin of these requirements. In addition UNIDO is working with the private sector to harmonize their food safety certification schemes. To this end, it - devised a global market protocol underpinned by Codex standards. Mr Badarneh highlighted that the UN system could play an important role in accreditation and bench-marking certification schemes.

(g) Presentation of other initiatives of partners, donors and observer organizations

31. The Secretariat introduced document [STDF/WG/Oct11/Compilation](#) and provided a brief overview of information submitted by Working Group members on their specific ongoing and planned SPS-related capacity building activities.

32. ITC provided additional information on its work with the EU on empowering the Africa private sector network to strengthen international competitiveness, which had been implemented in Uganda, Ghana and Kenya.

33. Germany informed the Working Group that it had attended the recent Partnership for Aflatoxin Control in Africa (PACA) meeting in Nairobi. UNIDO provided information about a large new project in Lao PDR that is funded by the Asian Development Bank and has an important food safety component.

5. SPS issues and priorities in other programmes (output 3)

(a) Coordination with, and contribution to, related initiatives and programmes

34. The Secretariat informed that the STDF provided comments on a DTIS update concept paper for Burundi and thanked the representative of Africa for his contribution. It also facilitated the conclusion of an agreement between FAO and UNOPS regarding FAO's implementation of EIF financed projects, which is relevant for the joint EIF/STDF funded project STDF/PG/329 in Nepal.

35. The Secretariat briefed the Working Group on its participation in the 3rd Global Aid for Trade Review in July 2011 where it disseminated documentation on the STDF. Several side-meetings with relevant organizations and beneficiaries were also organized. Preliminary discussions were held on the possible organization of an event in 2012 in Geneva, in close collaboration with WTO's Trade and Development Division, on SPS and Aid for Trade. However, as decided during the Working Group meeting on 20 October, the priorities for 2012 should be elsewhere, although members viewed that this work should be kept on the agenda and potentially be conducted in 2013.

36. The Secretariat highlighted that it intends to participate in the annual conference of the Trade Standards Practitioners Network (TSPN) on 30 November and 1 December 2011 in Washington D.C., which will focus on "Standards in South-South Trade and Opportunities for Advancing the

Sustainability Agenda". A background study on this topic is under development. Participation would also be used to organize several side-meetings with the World Bank, IDB, USDA/USAID, etc.

(b) Discussion about the PAN-SPSO programme

37. The Secretariat informed Working Group about its participation in the PAN-SPSO Steering Committee meeting in Mali in August 2011. The agenda included a draft evaluation report of PAN-SPSO phase I. The STDF, WTO and the Three Sisters were not interviewed during the field phase of this evaluation, however, they were able to provide comments on the draft report. The proposed phase II of PAN-SPSO is scheduled to start at the beginning of January 2012 and is currently under preparation (will be financed under Aid for Trade). The Secretariat intends to participate in a PAN-SPSO meeting in November 2011 to discuss and advise on phase II of the programme.

38. Members expressed their support of the PAN-SPSO project but expressed their concerns on the draft evaluation report with regards to, *inter alia*, the lack of information on what has been achieved by the programme and its sustainability.

39. The EC thanked the partners involved in the implementation of the PAN SPSO project for their contributions and support. The EC informed the Working Group that: (i) the evaluation carried out is an independent evaluation done by a consultant; and (ii) the second phase would be designed taking into account different types of inputs and comments received, the evaluation report being one input but not the only one. STDF Members were therefore encouraged to provide comments on the next phase of PAN-SPSO before the November meeting (to the EU delegation in Kenya which is responsible for the programme) in an effort to enable the formulation of the second phase to be completed before the end of the year.

6. Improved capacity of PPG beneficiaries (output 4)

(a) Joint EIF/STDF training on project design and results-based management tools

40. The Secretariat briefed the Working Group on an EIF training workshop on project design and results-based management tools in the Central African Republic (CAR), which was held from 1-4 August 2011. The workshop provided an opportunity to support the implementation of STDF/PPG/308, which focuses on the preparation of a project aimed at developing an SPS strategy and action plan for the country.

(b) Overview of implementation of on-going PPGs

41. The Secretariat introduced the overview document [STDF/WG/Oct11/Overview](#) which provides the implementation status of all ongoing PPGs. The representative of Chinese Taipei suggested that the Working Group should attempt to have a better geographical balance of projects and PPGs, in particular with regards to the Asia and Pacific region. The Secretariat responded by noting that the demand-driven approach was one of the basic principles of the STDF and that most of the applications did in fact come from Africa. However, donor Members from the Asia region could play a role in generating demand for STDF projects and PPGs and as such, the Secretariat said it could further engage in discussions with Japan, Australia and Chinese Taipei to see how this could be accomplished.

(c) Presentation of applications not accepted for consideration

42. The Secretariat gave an overview of the PPG application entitled "Strengthening the SPS system of Non-State Actors in Indonesia" (STDF/PPG/360). The Secretariat noted that the application was unclear in terms of its scope and objectives and would need to be reformulated. Since

this PPG focused on assistance in the fisheries area, the Secretariat shared this application with the EU as it is already financing projects in this sector.

(d) Discussion of PPG applications

43. The Secretariat briefly introduced the PPGs that were tabled for consideration by the Working Group.

STDF/PPG/353 – Sustainable institutional capacity to meet SPS standards to safeguard public health and market access in St. Lucia

44. The Working Group expressed concern that this proposal contained several inconsistencies in terms of sustainability and St. Lucia's ability to implement the International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC) and its standards. However, there was unanimous agreement on the need for assistance. Therefore, the Working Group recommended that the request be revised and re-submitted for consideration at the next meeting. Some members highlighted that they would have a strong preference for linking the project to a regional framework such as that of the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS).

STDF/PPG/359 – Africa Joint Pesticide Residue Data Generation Project

45. The Working Group approved this PPG request subject to three conditions. Firstly, it was recommended that the proposal to be developed through this PPG pay adequate attention to other pertinent capacity constraints and issues faced in Africa (such as residue monitoring and the implementation of good agricultural practices). Secondly, the Working Group recommended that efforts be made to clarify the role of AU-IBAR in the food safety area (related to plants) during PPG implementation, as well as in other appropriate activities and meetings. Indeed AU-IBAR is primarily responsible for animal-related issues. Under PAN SPSO, AU-IBAR has started working on food safety issues as there is no food safety institution at the continental level. The Working Group further agreed that it would be important to have a focused discussion within the AU to clarify and agree on responsibilities for food safety at the continental level. The planned STDF work with the AUC and the RECs could help in this regard. And thirdly, the Working Group agreed on the importance of actively encouraging collaboration with the FAO and the FAO/WHO Joint Meeting on Pesticide Residues (JMPR), the EU-funded "PIP Quality and conformity and Fruits and vegetables" Programme and pesticide companies in this PPG, as well as in the project to be developed.

STDF/PPG/365 – Application of the Multi Criteria Decision Analysis Tool to inform SPS decision-making in Belize

46. The Working Group decided to approve this request as a small project, rather than a PPG, in view of the nature of the work to be carried out and the expected outputs. While it was recognized that the outputs of the MCDA application in Belize would be useful to inform and guide future funding requests submitted to both donors and national authorities, there was agreement that the main purpose of the request was not to develop a project application *per se*.

47. The Working Group noted that Belize had already applied capacity evaluation tools in the area of food safety, animal and plant health. As a result, it agreed that efforts should be made to feed these results into the Multi Criteria Decision Analysis work in order to test how they complement and link to the MCDA framework.

7. Improved capacity of project beneficiaries (output 5)

(a) Evaluation of completed projects

48. The Secretariat reported that it had contracted the external evaluation for two projects: STDF/PG/133 (Building capacity to use the PCE tool in the Pacific) and STDF/PG/145 (Rwanda Horticulture Export Standards Initiative (RHESI)).

49. As was agreed at the June 2011 Working Group meeting, two more projects would be contracted in 2012 for external evaluation: STDF/PG/134 (Capacity building to improve fish trade performance of selected West African countries) and STDF/PG/246 (Development of an SPS Action Plan for Cambodia).

(c) Overview of implementation of ongoing projects

50. The Secretariat introduced document STDF/WG/Jun11/Overview which provides an overview of the implementation status of ongoing projects.

Presentation of issues arising by Secretariat

STDF/PG/283 – Improve Mali's capacity to comply with international and private SPS standards in the mango sector

51. The Secretariat informed the Working Group that it had received a second progress report for STDF/PG/286 covering the period of January to June 2011. The report noted that there had been certain delays in the implementation of activities mainly due to changes in the governmental procurement policy in Mali. The Secretariat also received a letter from the National Agency for Food Safety of Mali (ANSSA) requesting a six month extension until 16 November 2012 to complete project activities, due to this new policy, as well as end of the mango season. The Working Group approved this request.

STDF/PG/302 – Support the competitiveness of cabbage in the Niayes region of Senegal

52. The Secretariat noted that the EIF has indicated its inability to co-finance the project as agreed in July 2010, given that it does not fit within its new funding procedures. The beneficiary of this project, Senegal's Horticulture Union of the Niayes region (AUMN), submitted a letter to the Secretariat requesting funding for the total project (US\$524,000) and noted that it was ready to make the necessary modifications in order to accommodate the lack of co-financing from the EIF. The Working Group approved the funding of the entire project.

STDF/PG/309 – Strengthening SPS capacity in Guinea-Bissau

53. The Secretariat informed the Working Group of a joint STDF/World Bank mission to Guinea-Bissau from 13-16 September. The mission was conducted to follow-up on an SPS capacity building project that had been presented by the Government of Guinea-Bissau for joint funding by the STDF and the World Bank Trade Facilitation Facility (TFF) and approved by the STDF Working Group in October 2010.

54. The main objective of the mission was to review the project proposal with a view to align it with a major planned World Bank investment in the agribusiness sector in Guinea-Bissau and maximize synergies and impacts of both projects. As a result of the mission, the project proposal would be revised to focus on the cashew and fisheries sectors, identified as priorities by national stakeholders. According to the STDF operational rules, this project should be contracted by October 2011. Therefore, the Secretariat requested an extension to finalize the proposal and aimed to complete contractual arrangements before the next Working Group in March. The Working Group agreed to grant this extension.

(d) Presentation of applications not accepted for consideration

55. The Secretariat noted that three project applications (STDF/PG/362, STDF/PG/363 and STDF/PG/364) were not accepted for consideration as they did not meet the STDF's eligibility criteria. Additional details on the reasons for not tabling these applications are included in [STDF/WG/Oct11/Review](#).

(e) Discussion of project applications

STDF/PG/333- Strengthening Veterinary Legislation in Cameroon

56. The Secretariat introduced this application which was a re-submission of a proposal considered by the Working Group in October 2010. It was noted that the applicant had revised the proposal under the supervision of FAO's Animal Health Service, based on the recommendations made by the Working Group and the FAO/OIE mission. The Secretariat noted that the revised proposal had been substantially improved but that it still contained some budget flaws. The OIE representative highlighted that it does not support the proposal in the project to draft a manual to be used by other countries on how to use OIE's guidelines on veterinary legislation. It noted that this would be a duplication of already existing OIE guidelines.

57. FAO highlighted that the objectives were too ambitious and would be very difficult to complete within the established timeframe and resources. It was recommended that the applicant, FAO and OIE work together on the revision of the proposal for resubmission at a future meeting. The EC reminded that the EU financed the OIE for these legislation activities through the programme BTSF Africa. The financing will continue through the new programme "African Veterinary Governance" that should start in the coming months. Through this programme, funds will be available at the OIE to carry out legislation activities in all African countries.¹ As a consequence, the OIE should mention in the proposal that its contribution will be financed by the EU. The Working Group decided that the project be revised and resubmitted taking into account the comments made by STDF members.

STDF/PG/343 - Competency development scheme for the cinnamon sector in Sri Lanka

58. The Secretariat recalled that this proposal originated from a PPG awarded in March 2011 to the Spice Council of Sri Lanka (TSC) and implemented under the supervision of UNIDO. The Working Group was informed that the beneficiary had submitted a revised proposal shortly after the Secretariat's review had been circulated to STDF members. Although there hadn't been enough time to scrutinize the proposal, the revised version seems to have addressed many of the shortcomings that were highlighted in the review. Given this improved proposal as well as the current momentum of support in Sri Lanka for this initiative, the Working Group agreed to conditionally approve this project.

59. It was recommended that applicant revises the proposal prior to contacting mainly with regard to the following issues: (i) improve the reader-friendliness of the project document and better explain the shortcomings identified in the cinnamon value chain and the expected activities of the project (ii) provide more details on planned expenditure in the budget section (ii) work closely with FAO to identify a possible collaboration mechanism between FAO and UNIDO in the implementation of the project in order to benefit from FAO's expertise in the area of food safety related trainings; and (iv) adjust the budget accordingly.

STDF/PG/337 - ASEAN Pesticide Residue Data Generation Project: Strengthening regional capacity to meet pesticides export requirements based on international standards

¹ The Action Fiche describing this new programme is available under http://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/documents/aap/2010/af_aap_2010_intra-acp.pdf (Annex 9).

60. The Secretariat noted that while this application focused on regional collaboration and capacity building in the area of pesticide data generation and field trials, the project would also contribute towards standard-setting. It was mentioned that this project is part of a larger global MRL initiative, with the involvement of USDA and FAO. The Secretariat recommended that this project be approved for funding on condition that: (i) letters of support are received from outstanding ASEAN countries prior to contracting; and (ii) the Working Group agrees to a small budget increase (US\$30,000) to enable the Secretariat of the Joint FAO/WHO Meetings on Pesticide Residues (JMPR) to deliver its important technical advisory role under the project (e.g. by visiting field trials and participating in project steering committee meetings).

61. The FAO representative agreed to discuss the Secretariat's suggestion with the JMPR Secretary. The EC representative noted that while collaboration with PIP should be encouraged wherever feasible, market competition issues may sometimes limit the options for collaboration in practice - as PIP is funded under the European Development Fund which should benefit ACP countries (African Caribbean and Pacific). The Working Group agreed to conditionally approve the project subject to receipt of the outstanding letters and FAO's confirmation regarding its technical advisory role.

STDF/PG/335 - Strengthening the phytosanitary capacity of the floriculture sector in Uganda

62. The Secretariat recalled that this proposal originated from a PPG that had been approved by the Working Group in October 2010. The project aims to maintain and improve access of flowers from Uganda to the EU and other high end markets. The Secretariat recommended that the application be approved subject to: (i) clarification of the management structure and its reformulation in compliance with STDF terminology, (ii) clarification of the training content and revision of the budget accordingly, and (iii) minor modifications to the log frame.

63. Some members noted that the objectives and outputs did not fully correspond to the problems described and that the budget seemed low in relation to the number of activities that were being proposed. The IPPC representative highlighted the absence of an explanation as to how the national plant protection organization (NPPO) was going to deal with the private sector, since under the IPPC, non-governmental personnel may be authorized by the NPPO to carry out specific certification functions only under specific conditions. The African representative highlighted that the export certification system would require that the NPPO of Uganda works in consultation with the NPPO of the Netherlands to help define the critical intervention points. He also questioned the proposed role for CABI as implementing agency for the project. Several members suggested that strengthening the phytosanitary certification scheme in Uganda is a key priority.

64. Since some Members were concerned with aspects of the proposal that went beyond the conditions brought forth by the Secretariat, the Working Group agreed that the applicant revises and re-submits the proposal for the next meeting. The Secretariat noted that it would look into the possibility of hiring the consultant for a few more days in order to address several of the above-mentioned issues.

STDF/PG/358 - Regional Project on Veterinary Legislation for OIRSA Member States

65. The Secretariat briefly introduced this proposal and noted that there were many weaknesses that needed to be addressed before a funding decision could be made, including: (i) better define the activities to be carried out, (ii) clarify certain budget issues, and (iii) substantially improve the logical framework.

66. The Working Group acknowledged the need for assistance in this realm at the regional level and stated that the project would benefit from joint collaboration between the OIE and FAO legal

experts. The Working Group recommended that the applicant revise and resubmit the proposal in close collaboration with OIE and FAO, for consideration at the next meeting.

8. Decisions on financing and prioritizing

67. The Secretariat reported that no decision on prioritization was required.

9. Other business

68. The Secretariat thanked the outgoing chair, Mr Thomas Westcot (USDA), for his excellent chairmanship.

69. The meeting closed at 5:10 p.m.

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