



**Asia-Pacific
Economic Cooperation**

2017/SOM3/SCSC/010

Agenda Item: 5.1.3

Summary Report Latest Activities of WTO/SPS Committee

Purpose: Information

Submitted by: China



**Second Sub-Committee on Standards and
Conformance Meeting
Ho Chi Minh City, Viet Nam
23-24 August 2017**



Summary Report Latest Activities of WTO/SPS Committee

APEC SCSC II

23-24 August 2017

Ho Chi Minh City, Viet Nam

China



The Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures

68th Regular Meeting

22-23 March 2017, Geneva

- INFORMATION SHARING
- SPECIFIC TRADE CONCERNS
- OPERATION AND IMPLEMENTATION OF SPS AGREEMENTS
- CROSS-CUTTING ISSUES
- TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AND COOPERATION
- CONCERNS WITH PRIVATE AND COMMERCIAL STANDARDS

INFORMATION SHARING

- **Japan – Update on the situation surrounding Japanese food after the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear power plant accident**
- **Canada – Update on safe food for Canadians regulation**
- **Canada – The Electronic Service Delivery Platform**
- **Russian Federation – Information on the international conference "Food Safety and Risk Analysis" to be held in Sochi (Russia) on 18-19 May 2017**
- **Russian Federation – Possible scenario on African swine fever spread in the Eurasian region**
- **Russian Federation – Regionalization of the territory of the Russian Federation for infectious animal diseases**
- Turkey - Update of veterinary health certificate models (G/SPS/GEN/1531)
- European Union – New EU legislation on plant health (G/SPS/GEN/1541)
- European Union – Update on the Avian Influenza situation
- Brazil – Recent measures implemented on animal products
- Information from OIE, CODEX and IPPC on relevant activities

SPECIFIC TRADE CONCERNS(1)

Two new specific trade concerns (STCs) were withdrawn following bilateral consultations:

- (1) Senegal's concern regarding India's fumigation requirements for cashew nuts; and**
- (2) Japan's concern regarding Thailand's import restrictions on plant products.**

The Secretariat drew attention to the recently released annual compilation of STCs (G/SPS/GEN/204/Rev.17).

The report compiled all STCs raised in the SPS Committee during 2016. A total of 37 STCs had been discussed, of which 13 were new STCs, and 24 had been previously raised. Three STCs had been reported as resolved or partially resolved.

Concerns announced:

	New Concerns	Raised by
1	Viet Nam's suspension of groundnut seed imports	Senegal
2	United States MRLs for chlorpyrifos	Israel
3	EU non-recognition of regionalization for Avian Influenza	Russian Federation

SPECIFIC TRADE CONCERNS(2)

	Issues Previously Raised
1	Chinese Taipei's import restrictions on Japanese foods in response to the nuclear power plant accident – Concerns of Japan (No. 387)
2	China's import restrictions on Japanese foods in response to the nuclear power plant accident – Concerns of Japan (No. 354)
3	European Union's revised proposal for categorization of compounds as endocrine disruptors – Concerns of Argentina and the United States (No. 382)
4	The Russian Federation's Import Restrictions on Processed Fishery Products from Estonia and Latvia – Concerns of the European Union (No. 390)
5	The Russian Federation's import restrictions on certain animal products from Germany – Concerns of the European Union (No. 411)
6	China's import ban on fresh mangosteen - Concerns of Indonesia (No. 416)
7	General import restrictions due to BSE – Concerns of the European Union (No. 193)
8	China's import restrictions due to African swine fever – Concerns of the European Union (No. 392)
9	Korea's import restrictions due to African swine fever – Concerns of the European Union (No. 393)

SPECIFIC TRADE CONCERNS(3)

	Issues Previously Raised
10	United States Seafood Import Monitoring Programme - Concerns of China (No. 415)
11	China's proposed amendments to the implementation regulations on safety assessment of agricultural GMOs (G/SPS/N/CHN/881) – Concerns of the United States (No. 395)
12	China's lack of transparency for certain SPS measures – Concerns of the United States (No. 184)



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OPERATION AND IMPLEMENTATION OF SPS AGREEMENTS (1)



Equivalence

- Madagascar – South Africa's recognition of phytosanitary measures for lychee imports

Pest and Disease Free Information

Area	Pest and Disease Free Information
Turkey	New regulation on zones free from notifiable avian influenza
Turkey	Declaration of freedom from Xylella fastidiosa
Senegal	Information on Spodoptera frugiperda
Madagascar	Information on pest and disease-free areas
European Union	Regionalization
Chile	Avian influenza
Chile	Recognition of freedom from fruit fly by Viet Nam

Operation of transparency provisions-by the Secretariat

- Update on the ePing alert system and on the modernization of the SPS IMS and NSS
- Report of the Informal Meeting on March 21, 2017 on Transparency Proposal by Chile and the European Union (G/SPS/W/290)

Special and Differential Treatment

- Nigeria highlighted the importance of the implementation and enforcement of provisions on special and different treatment in the SPS agreement
- Madagascar request the European Union consider the situation of Madagascar in the application of the measures in force on pesticides with endocrine disruptor effects

Monitoring of the use of International Standards

- No new issues is provided and members reiterated their previous concerns

Fourth Review (G/SPS/W/279/Rev.2, G/SPS/W/280/Rev.2)

- Report on the Fourth Review of the Agreement on SPS was adopted at a meeting on 13 and 14 July

Informal meeting on 21 March 2017



CROSS-CUTTING ISSUES



Workshop on Pesticide Maximum Residue Levels (MRLs): Possible next steps for consideration by the SPS Committee – Proposal by Kenya, Uganda and the United States (G/SPS/W/292)

- The Chairperson reminded Members that following the Workshop on Pesticide Maximum Residue Levels in October 2016, Kenya, Uganda and the United States had presented a proposal on possible next steps for consideration by the SPS Committee. The Chairperson indicated that this proposal had been discussed at the informal meeting on Tuesday 21 March 2017 and invited the Secretariat to present a short, factual report on the discussions.

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AND COOPERATION

Information from the Secretariat:

- WTO SPS technical assistance activities (G/SPS/GEN/521/Rev.12, G/SPS/GEN/997/Rev.7: undertaken and planned activities)
- The STDF Secretariat provided an overview of its activities, as circulated in document G/SPS/GEN/1538, as well as an update on decisions made by the STDF Working Group that had met on 20-21 March 2017.

Information from Members:

- Senegal - Assistance received by the mango sector
- Madagascar – Technical assistance received
- Chile – Technical assistance activities
- Burkina Faso – Technical assistance received
- The Gambia – Technical assistance requested
- Togo – Technical assistance received
- Nigeria - Technical assistance received
- Mozambique – Technical assistance requested

Nigeria reiterated its position on private and commercial standards, noting that these standards negatively affected African exports, as well as compromised the ability of developing countries to compete with multinational companies in developed countries.

OTHER BUSINESS

Ecuador – Brazil's measures on shrimp (STC No. 344)

Chinese Taipei - Thailand's import restriction on papaya seeds

Peru – Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on Novel Foods

United States – Rules for interventions under 'Other Business'

Canada – Next steps on Fourth Review



DATE AND AGENDA FOR NEXT MEETINGS



The next regular meeting of the Committee was held on 13-14 July 2017, with informal meetings on 11-12 July 2017.



Thank you for your attention!

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