

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

Communication from Kenya

The following communication, received on 11 June 2010, is being circulated at the request of the Delegation of Kenya.

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1. To deal with non-compliance issues for domestic as well as exports and market access challenges, Kenya Plant Health Inspectorate Service received a grant of 3.2 million euros for capacity building in the areas of analytical services for contaminants in food and feed, plant health diagnostics and expansion of laboratories.
 2. The KEPHIS/EU Horticultural Produce Phytosanitary Certification and Quality Assurance (HORTICAP) project which has been running since November 2007, is scheduled to end in November 2010. The Kenya Plant Health Inspectorate Service has made significant improvements in capacity for residue and contaminant analysis as well as plant health diagnostics and risk assessment.
 3. Currently, construction of analytical chemistry and plant health laboratories is nearing completion, pieces of laboratory equipment that support analytical and diagnostic services have been purchased and a number of officers have received specialized training both abroad and at home. It is envisaged that upon completion of project activities later this year there will be significant improvements in the level of sanitary and phytosanitary compliance and capacity for rapid response not only in the horticulture sub-sector but the entire food trade in the country. The activities and output of this project complemented those of others such as the World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD) CABHORT and the STDF Center for Phytosanitary Excellence (COPE) projects that have been implemented by KEPHIS.
 4. Kenya wishes to thank the European Union and other donors for continued technical assistance in both technical and infrastructural capacity development initiatives.
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