

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

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
