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Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures

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TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE TO DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

COMMUNICATION FROM CANADA¹

The following communication, received on 11 March 2014, is being circulated at the request of the Delegation of Canada.

1. Canada would like to provide an update regarding the provision of technical assistance from January to December 2012.² Technical assistance has been provided to developing and least developed countries in accordance with Article 9 of the Agreement on the Application of Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS) Measures. The assistance was primarily aimed at facilitating the development and implementation of sanitary and phytosanitary measures based on sound science. The attached table reflects Canadian technical assistance to developing and least developed countries in 2012. While every effort has been made to ensure that information contained in the table presents all relevant technical assistance projects, it may not constitute a complete compilation of technical assistance delivered given the number of Canadian government departments and agencies and the variety of delivery programs involved.

2. The monetary value of the technical assistance committed amounted to approximately CDN \$1.33 million between January and December 2012. It should be noted that, in many cases, the organizations providing the assistance also made additional in-kind contributions to projects.

3. Assistance was provided to more than 30 countries: in Africa, Latin America and the Caribbean, and the Asia-Pacific regions. Assistance was directed to both individual countries, groups of countries, and to international organizations.

4. Canada's assistance addressed three of the four broad categories listed in G/SPS/GEN/206: information; training; and "soft" infrastructure development (but not "hard" infrastructure development). Assistance from Canada covered most of the "typical areas of competence" listed under the headings of food safety, animal health and plant protection, in the Annex of G/SPS/GEN/206.

5. Note that in 2012, the second contribution (\$1 million) of a multi-year, multi-million dollar contribution was made by the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) on behalf of Canada to the Standards and Trade Development Facility (STDF). A total of \$5 million over the period 2011-2014 will be provided to the STDF as a financial contribution to the Facility's work in the coordination of international SPS activities and SPS capacity building in developing and least developed countries.

6. In all, 16 projects are listed for the period January to December 2012.

¹ This document replaces G/SPS/GEN/1196/Add.1.

² Canada has provided technical assistance updates for 2011 (G/SPS/GEN/1196), 2010 (G/SPS/GEN/1149), 2009 (G/SPS/GEN/1099), 2008 (G/SPS/GEN/1027), 2007 (G/SPS/GEN/1008), 2005-2006 (G/SPS/GEN/765), 2000-2004 (G/SPS/GEN/728), and for years prior to 2000 (G/SPS/GEN/143/Rev.1/Add.1).

**TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROVIDED BY CANADA
JANUARY 2012 - DECEMBER 2012**

Sector	Description of Particular Programme	Form of Assistance	Provided to	Contact
Animal Health	International Regional Organization on Agricultural Health (OIRSA) Workshop to develop a traceability program. (23–27 January 2012)	Training	Guatemala	Rolf.Schoenert@inspection.gc.ca
Animal Health	Two workshops on animal health genetics for Peruvian government and private sector participants. (7–11 March 2012)	Training	Peru	Rolf.Schoenert@inspection.gc.ca
Animal Health	Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy (BSE) prevention, diagnostics and response training provided to four government technicians from Saudi Arabia. (5–23 March 2012)	Training	Saudi Arabia, Kingdom of	Rolf.Schoenert@inspection.gc.ca
Animal Health	Six month attachment to Centre for Food-Borne and Animal Parasitology Laboratory for visiting scientist to train on <i>Trichinella</i> sp. diagnostics. (3 May – 5 November 2012)	Training	India	Rolf.Schoenert@inspection.gc.ca
Animal Health	One week technical visit to Canada on quinolone detection by a three member delegation from Chemical Residues and Contaminants group in the Ministry of Agriculture (MAPA). (7-14 August 2012)	Information	Brazil	Rolf.Schoenert@inspection.gc.ca
Animal Health	Two research staff from the Animal Health Research Institute (AHRI) trained in prion diseases at federal government laboratories for Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) and for Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy (BSE). (26 November – 14 December 2012)	Training	Chinese Taipei	Rolf.Schoenert@inspection.gc.ca
Plant Health	Seven day workshop on the Canadian program for the inspection of confined field trials of Plants with Novel Traits (PNTs) to representatives from eight organizations of the government. (3-19 February 2012)	Training	Burkina Faso	Rolf.Schoenert@inspection.gc.ca

Sector	Description of Particular Programme	Form of Assistance	Provided to	Contact
Plant Health	Western Hemispheric Workshop on Low Level Presence (LLP) to build a common understanding of LLP within the region, and build consensus on the need to address the issue internationally. (7-9 March 2012)	Information	Argentina, Brazil, CARICOM, Chile, Columbia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Mexico, Paraguay, Uruguay	Kirsten.Finstad@agr.gc.ca
Plant Health	In Canada training on the Canadian Regulatory Framework for the Products of Biotechnology. (8-9 March 2012)	Training	Chile	Kirsten.Finstad@agr.gc.ca
Plant Health	Two day technical visit to Canada on phytosanitary certification, import controls and mycotoxins by four member delegation from Ministry of Agriculture (MAPA) and the University of Lavras. (24-25 April 2012)	Information	Brazil	Rolf.Schoenert@inspection.gc.ca
Plant Health	International Regional Organization on Agricultural Health (OIRSA)/International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC) Workshop on plant protection. (18-19 September 2012)	Training	Guatemala	Rolf.Schoenert@inspection.gc.ca
Food Safety	Financial contribution to the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA) in support of the participation of the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC) in the meetings of the Codex Committee on Pesticide Residues (CCPR) and the Codex Committee on Food Labelling (CCFL) in 2012. (March 2012)	Funding	IICA member Countries	Daryl.Nearing@agr.gc.ca
Food Safety	Regional workshop on basic principles and organisation of Codex. (15-19 October 2012)	Training	Djibouti, Somalia	Allan.McCarville@hc-sc.gc.ca
Animal Health, Plant Health and Food Safety	Regional workshop on biosafety and biotechnology methods and practices for 45 technical officials from Central American countries. (28-29 March 2012)	Training	Belize, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, Panama	Kirsten.Finstad@agr.gc.ca

Sector	Description of Particular Programme	Form of Assistance	Provided to	Contact
Animal Health, Plant Health and Food Safety	Regional workshop on risk assessment and management in animal health, plant health and food safety to members of the Andean Technical Committee on Agriculture and Livestock Health (COTASA) and government officials from four Latin American countries. (19-23 March 2012)	Training	Bolivia, Plurinational State of; Columbia; Ecuador; Peru	dewitta@agr.gc.ca
Animal Health, Plant Health and Food Safety	To share information on the Canadian regulatory framework for products of biotechnology with visiting regulators of the West African Economic and Monetary Union (WAEMU) and promote science-based regulations for products of biotechnology. (3 December 2012)	Information	Benin, Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire, Guinea-Bissau, Mali, Niger, Senegal, Togo	Rolf.Schoenert@inspection.gc.ca