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Page: 1/5

Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures

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## TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE TO DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

### COMMUNICATION FROM CANADA

The following communication, received on 3 July 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 2013.<sup>1</sup> 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 \$7.47 million between January and December 2013. 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 31 countries: in Africa, Latin America and the Caribbean, Central Asia and the Asia-Pacific region. 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 2013, the third contribution (\$1 million) of a multi-year, multi-million dollar contribution was made by the Department of Foreign Affairs, Trade and Development (DFATD) on behalf of Canada to the WTO 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, 17 projects are listed for the period January to December 2013.

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<sup>1</sup> Canada has provided technical assistance updates for 2012 (G/SPS/GEN/1318), 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 2013 - DECEMBER 2013**

Sector	Description of Particular Programme	Form of Assistance	Provided to	Contact
Animal Health	Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy (BSE) detection training provided to five government laboratory technicians from Mexico (4-8 February 2013)	Training	Mexico	Pam.Gale@inspection.gc.ca
Animal Health	Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy (BSE) prevention, diagnostics, and confirmation training provided to a pathologist from the National Animal Health Service (SENASA), Costa Rica (3 June - 13 July 2013)	Training	Costa Rica	Pam.Gale@inspection.gc.ca
Animal Health	Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy (BSE) prevention, diagnostics and confirmation and quality assurance and safety information provided to Animal Health Research Institute (AHRI), Chinese Taipei (30 November – 8 December 2013)	Information	Chinese Taipei	Pam.Gale@inspection.gc.ca
Animal Health	Funding to the Public Health Foundation of India (PHFI) collaborating with International Livestock Research Institute (ILRI) to build local skills and knowledge to achieve safe food production and livestock keeping and enhanced public health targeting bovine tuberculosis and the misuse of antibiotics on dairy farms (1 November 2013 – 2017)	Funding	India	k.tiessen@idrc.ca
Plant Health	One week technical visit to Canada for training and information on seed potato export certification program and diagnostic methods for detection of potato cyst nematodes (19-26 January 2013)	Training and Information	Dominican Republic	Alain.Boucher@inspection.gc.ca

Sector	Description of Particular Programme	Form of Assistance	Provided to	Contact
Plant Health	Biotech Risk Analysis Workshop Financial contribution and technical expertise in support of a five day workshop on biotechnology facilitated by the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA) held in San Jose, Costa Rica (25 February – 2 March 2013)	Training	Belize, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, Panama	Rolf.Schoenert@inspection.gc.ca
Plant Health	Low Level Presence in Seed Workshop Two-day hemispheric workshop attended by government officials and representatives of the seed industry (Seed Association of the Americas (SAA), Canadian Seed Trade Association, DuPont-Pioneer, and Seed Associations of Paraguay) (12-13 June 2013)	Training	Brazil, Chile, Columbia, Costa Rica, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Paraguay	k.finstad@agr.gc.ca
Food Safety	A project with the University of Nairobi to evaluate drivers of compliance with food safety standards through different institutional arrangements, assess financial and economic viability of compliance, and analyze livelihood impact of compliance on smallholder farmers involved in vegetable production and export in central and eastern Kenya (March 2010 – September 2013)	Information	Kenya	k.tiessen@idrc.ca
Food Safety	Funding to the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research (CGIAR) to generate knowledge and technologies to improve the nutritional quality and safety of foods along the value chain (February 2012 – March 2015)	Funding	Global	k.tiessen@idrc.ca

Sector	Description of Particular Programme	Form of Assistance	Provided to	Contact
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 in 2013 (March 2013)	Funding	Bolivia, Plurinational State of; Costa Rica; Dominican Republic; Nicaragua; Panama; Uruguay	Daryl.Nearing@agr.gc.ca
Food Safety	Developed and adapted training materials for use by the Global Foodborne Infections Network (GFIN) of the World Health Organization (WHO) in Cameroon and India. Delivered training for two WHO-GFIN sponsored courses in India (9-17 April and 7-11 October 2013)	Training	Cameroon, India	Melissa.phypers@phac-aspc.gc.ca
Food Safety	Presentation on export certification at a series of seminars to agri-food inspectors at border entry-exit points (12 June – 25 October 2013)	Information	Mexico	Rolf.Schoenert@inspection.gc.ca
Food Safety	Presentation on Canada's food recall system at the Food Safety Forum organized by Mexico's regulatory agency, National Service for Health, Safety and Agri-food Quality (SENASICA) (2 October 2013)	Information	Mexico	Rolf.Schoenert@inspection.gc.ca
Food Safety	Korean Food and Drug Administration (KFDA) study tour to Canada on Canada's food-borne disease policy, surveillance of food-borne disease outbreaks and the response management system of food poisoning within Canada (15-19 October 2013)	Training	Korea, Republic of	Rita.Gratton@hc-sc.gc.ca
Food Safety	Deployed epidemiologist to the Philippines, as part of WHO's Global Outbreak Alert Response Network, to help mitigate potential risks to public health in the wake of Typhoon Haiyan (19 December 2013 – 17 January 2014)	Technical Expertise	Philippines	Melissa.phypers@phac-aspc.gc.ca

Sector	Description of Particular Programme	Form of Assistance	Provided to	Contact
Animal Health, Plant Health and Food Safety	Series of one day videoconference seminars in association with Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture in Canada as follow up to a 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 in Lima, Peru in 2012 (8, 15, 22 March 2013)	Training and Funding	Bolivia, Plurinational State of; Columbia; Ecuador; Peru	Daryl.Nearing@agr.gc.ca
Animal Health, Plant Health and Food Safety	Technical visit 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 (29 April 2013)	Information	Benin, Burkina Faso, Guinea-Bissau, Côte d'Ivoire, Mali, Niger, Senegal, Togo	Kirsten.finstad@agr.gc.ca