



**SADC REPORT TO THE WORLD TRADE ORGANISATION SANITARY AND PHYTOSANITARY
COMMITTEE MEETING ON SPS ACTIVITIES**

MEETING OF 14-16 JULY 2015

The following communication, received on 6 July 2015, is being circulated at the request of the Southern African Development Community (SADC).

1 STRENGTHENING OF REGIONAL SANITARY AND PHYTOSANITARY CAPACITY

1.1. SADC Secretariat participated in the steering committee meeting for the African Solidarity Trust Fund (ASTF) project held in Harare, Zimbabwe on 28–29 May 2015. The project is being managed by the Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) sub-regional office. The project is aimed at strengthening regional sanitary and phytosanitary capacity in order to manage the threats of food safety hazards, animal diseases and plant pests for enhanced food security and regional trade. This will be achieved through the implementation of the provisions of the World Trade Organisation (WTO) Agreement on the Application of Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures.

1.2. The meeting reviewed member States work plans and made recommendations on the way forward in the respective thematic areas (food safety, plant and animal health). The eight primary beneficiary member States include Angola, Botswana, Madagascar, Mozambique, Namibia, South Africa, Zambia and Zimbabwe. The project has a regional component to ensure effective coordination and technical support.

2 WORKSHOP ON HARMONISATION OF PHYTOSANITARY REGULATION

2.1. SADC Secretariat facilitated a workshop on harmonisation of phytosanitary regulations for horticultural plants for planting moving in intra-regional trade. The workshop was held in Pretoria, South Africa on 9–11 June, 2015. Participants of the workshop were officials from the National Plant Protection Organisations (NPPOs) from all the SADC member States responsible for conducting pest risk analysis (PRA) including plant protection experts from research institutions and international organisations. The workshop was sponsored by European Union (EU) through the Regional Economic Integration Support (REIS) programme.

2.2. Harmonised phytosanitary import regulations for plants for planting of 19 horticultural crops aimed at facilitating safe intra-regional trade were drafted in readiness for national consultations. The 19 crops were chosen by member States during the Plant Protection Technical Committee meeting held in South Africa in February 2015 by considering their importance to regional trade.

2.3. Harmonisation of phytosanitary regulations was achieved through the development of a regional list of quarantine pests for each crop. Member States provided national lists of endemic pests for the selected crops. The provided lists were consolidated into crop specific regional lists of endemic pests. Pest risk analysis was conducted in accordance with International Standard for Phytosanitary Measure publication 11.

3 MANAGEMENT OF FRUIT FLIES

3.1. With support from FAO through the regional Technical Cooperation Programme (TCP), a regional training workshop on the development and management of national and regional Plant Pests Databases was conducted in Lusaka, Zambia on 18–20 June, 2015. The workshop was facilitated by regional expert from the University of Pretoria, South Africa. Eight member States participated in the workshop namely Angola, Botswana, Madagascar, Namibia, Seychelles, Swaziland, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

3.2. The workshop was followed by the Project Steering Committee meeting which discussed the national work plans and made recommendations on the way forward.

4 MANAGEMENT OF BANANA FUSARIUM WILT (*FUSARIUM OXYSPOURUM F. SP. CUBENSE* TROPICAL RACE 4) IN MOZAMBIQUE

4.1. SADC Secretariat participated in the inception workshop of the TCP between FAO and the Ministry of Agriculture of Mozambique following the outbreak of the Banana Fusarium Wilt Disease in Nampula Province of Mozambique in September, 2013. The workshop was held on 20–24 April, 2015 in Nampula, Mozambique. The workshop was attended by the national, regional and international plant protection experts including the private sector.

4.2. The 12 month project is aimed at supporting the disease containment efforts in order to stop it from spreading in the country and the region. The disease is of quarantine importance as it poses serious threats on food security of Mozambique and the region.

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