

Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures

**SUMMARY OF THE REPLIES TO THE QUESTIONNAIRE
ON TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE**

Note by the Secretariat

Addendum

1. At its 10-11 November 1999 meeting, the SPS Committee agreed that the Summary of the replies to the questionnaire on technical assistance would be regularly updated. All Members were invited to submit information on their technical assistance activities for inclusion in a revised document to be circulated for the regular meetings.
2. The Secretariat received the attached reply to the questionnaire (Canada) and an update of information from Italy.

Technical assistance provided

GENERAL

| Country | Summary of main technical assistance subjects/actions: | Form of assistance: | Provided to: |
|---------------------|--|---------------------|--|
| Canada ¹ | Sanitary and phytosanitary measures. Implementation of the SPS Agreement: Training on the WTO Agreement on the Application of SPS Measures, the rights and obligations and how to improve technical market access conditions for exports (June 1998) | | Costa Rica; Nicaragua; Panama; Guatemala; Honduras; El Salvador |

FOOD SAFETY

| Country | Summary of main technical assistance subjects/actions: | Form of assistance: | Provided to: |
|---------|---|---------------------|--------------|
| Canada | Processing Technology. Presented a seminar on rapid methods for testing foods at the TECNO-FIDTA 1996, Buenos Aires, Argentina (September 1996) | | Argentina |
| | Training. Gave a course on <i>Listeria monocytogenes</i> at the University of Sao Paulo in Brazil. (1995) | | Brazil |
| | Training. From 1996 to 1999 - Trained staff from the University of Sao Paulo in Brazil, in <i>Listeria</i> methodology and typing (1996-1999) | | Brazil |
| | Infrastructure. Discussion about the Canadian Food Inspection Agency with experts (Visitors to Canada) (September 1998) | | Brazil |

¹ Although Canada has a long history of technical cooperation, the activities reported are reflective of latter years'. In addition to the activities reported, Canadian Provincial Governments may also participate in international technical cooperation.

| Country | Summary of main technical assistance subjects/actions: | Form of assistance: | Provided to: |
|---------------|--|---------------------|--|
| Canada | Processing technology. Course/Seminar on how to support the Development of law and regulation. Infrastructure. Development of small and medium size agri-food businesses. (Visitors to Canada) (1990-2000) | | Bulgaria Burkina Faso; Cameroon Cape Verde; Côte d'Ivoire; Egypt; Gabon; Guinea-Conakry; Haiti; Mauritius; Madagascar; Mali; Mauritania; Morocco; Niger; Romania; Tunisia; Vietnam |
| | Food Safety and Animal Health. Processing technology. On-site visits of processing plants to make recommendations on HACCP plans (March 1998) | | Chile |
| | Processing technology and research. Presented papers on Rapid Methods of Food Microbiological Analysis and the Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Points approach to food safety at the First Seminar on Rapid Methods in Food Microbiology and Their Importance in Public Health, Bogotá, Colombia. (February 1994) | | Columbia |
| | Equivalency Agreement. Memorandum of Understanding on fresh and frozen shrimp | | Ecuador |
| | Processing technology. Learned about HACCP application and implementation in Canada. (Visitors to Canada) (September 1999) | | India |
| | Equivalency Agreement. Memorandum of Understanding on fresh and frozen shrimp (1996) | | Indonesia |

| Country | Summary of main technical assistance subjects/actions: | Form of assistance: | Provided to: |
|---------------|--|---------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Canada | Training. Seminar given to representatives from Latin American and Caribbean countries on foodborne disease surveillance systems in Canada and a review of some of the foodborne disease issues facing PAHO countries, Washington, D.C., Apr. 22, 1999. (April 1999) | | Latin America |
| | Research. Headed an RAPD molecular typing study on <i>Listeria monocytogenes</i> in foods (1998-2000) | | Many |
| | Training. Seminar on the Trade Impact of <i>Listeria</i> in Fish Products (May 1999) | | Many |
| | HACCP. Quality control. Sent experts to help shrimp processing plants improve the quality of the production to international standards (1999) | | Morocco |
| | Food Safety and Plant Health. Infrastructure. Training on how to establish a food inspection agency and a seed potato certification programme. (Visitors to Canada) (1999) | | Morocco |
| | Recognition of standards. Attended meetings with the Mexican ministry of health to discuss the status of the Mexican fish inspection system; reviewed a work plan for the development of such an agreement; and assessed several fish processing establishments (May 1998) | | Mexico |
| | Workshop on Clostridium botulinum and C. perfringens. Workshop for Mexican federal government microbiologists, given at the Laboratorio Nacional de Salud Publica (National Public Health Laboratory) | | Mexico |
| | Research. Risk Assessment. Lectures at conferences and universities on new analytical methods for toxins in foods to assist risk assessment work. | | Mexico; Panama; Tunisia; Pakistan |
| | Training. Presented seminars on Mexican export to Canada in collaboration with Mexican embassy and Mexican government (December 1998) | | Mexico |

| Country | Summary of main technical assistance subjects/actions: | Form of assistance: | Provided to: |
|---------------|--|---------------------|--------------|
| Canada | <p>Developing national law and regulations. Updating of food laws to strengthen food safety and nutritional quality control systems.</p> <p>Development of a proposal for evaluating the safety of novel foods.</p> <p>Reviewed nutrient and compositional requirements for human milk substitutes.</p> <p>Updating of nutritional standards for children.</p> <p>Reviewed the ninth five-year plan concerning food and nutrition policy and nutrition surveys.</p> <p>Workshop on “Nutrition Policy in Public Health” arranged.</p> <p>Presentation of lecture entitled “Diet and Risk Factors For Cardiovascular Disease” to Pakistan National Heart Association</p> <p>Presentation of seminars to strengthen food and nutrition programs. (15 March – 30 April 1999)</p> | | Pakistan |
| | Processing technology. Research.Help to develop a quality control system for a food lab and ISO Guide 25 (1999-2001) | | Paraguay |
| | <p>Recognition of equivalence. Audit department of fisheries (responsibilities under March 1997 Agreement on the Equivalence of Fish & Fishery Products Inspection and Control System)</p> <p>Sensory training / workshop on fish canning (March 1999 to January 2000)</p> | | Thailand |
| | <p>Production/Processing Technology. Development of national law and regulations.</p> <p>Introductory seminar on canned food technology. Workshops on Food Safety with emphasis on Good Manufacturing Practices and HACCP. Reviewed the regulatory requirements for low-acid and acidified low-acid foods. Reference examples of the U.S. and Canadian Requirements. Product Quality Establishing quality control and quality assurance systems (1 month)</p> | | Thailand |

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| Canada | Technical information sharing. Visited lab in Dartmouth, N.S. for 2 weeks training re Turkish raisin program. (Visitors to Canada) (October 1998) | | Turkey |
| | Training. Gave information about agrifood controls and also about conditions and requirements to export vegetables, fruits, processed food and rice to Canada. (Visitors to Canada) (June 1999) | | Uruguay |
| | Specific Work with WHO and PAHO since 1995. Surveillance and control of water supply and food safety: Cambodia. 9 - 21 Nov.1997. Mission Report for the Regional Office for the Western Pacific, WHO, Manila, Nov.4, RS/97/0845 (November 1997) | | Cambodia |
| | Specific Work with WHO and PAHO since 1995. Surveillance and control of water supply and food safety: China. 23 Nov.-5 Dec.,1997. Mission Report for the Regional Office for the Western Pacific, WHO, Manila, 3 Sept., RS/97/0743 (November 1997) | | China |
| | SO-based inspection systems including HACCP; Risk Assessment; Development of regulations; Technical information sharing; Technical expertise. Provided information on diagnostic tests used for microbiological analysis and inspection (August 1998) | | China |
| | Developing national law and regulations. Spoke at a seminar on food labelling (November 1998) | | China |

BIOTECHNOLOGY

| Country | Summary of main technical assistance subjects/actions: | Form of Assistance: | Provided to: |
|---------|---|---------------------|---------------------|
| Canada | Development of national law and regulations. Risk Assessment. Presented seminars and workshops organized by BioteCanada in collaboration with CFIA (financially sponsored by CIDA). (August 1999) Also received training in Health Canada facility, Ottawa. (Visitors to Canada) (November 1999) | | Argentina and Chile |
| | Risk assessment. National regulatory body. Assessed the current status and training needs of the Chilean plant biosafety regulatory agency Servicio Agrícola y Ganadero (SAG), provided technical assistance to SAG, interviewed potential trainees to travel to Canada, participated in a workshop with Chilean and Argentinians regulatory officials and presented a paper on “Risk Assessment and Risk Management of Novel Plants in Canada” at the 4th National Congress on Biotechnology. (September 1998) | | Chile |
| | Technical information sharing. Participation in the APEC agricultural biotechnology capacity building workshop (November 1998) | | Malaysia |
| | Developing law and regulations. ASEAN Seminar on Risk Assessment and Public Awareness of Agricultural Products Derived from Biotechnology. Informative presentations on “Regulation of GMO’s by CFIA” and “The Communications Experience of CFIA in Agriculture Biotechnology” (January 1999) | | Singapore |
| | Policy development. Development of law and regulations. Met with regulators and government officials involved in regulation of products of biotechnology and learned about the Canadian regulation system. (Visitors to Canada) (September 1998) | | Philippines |
| | Development of law and regulations. Presentations on “Issues in Biosafety” and Environmental Release of High Laurate-Canola Experiences of the CFIA” (February 1999) | | Thailand; Malaysia |
| | Technical information sharing. Participated in biotechnology symposium and follow-up meetings with officials in several Ukrainian ministries (October 1998) | | Ukraine |

ANIMAL HEALTH

| Country | Summary of main technical assistance subjects/actions: | Form of Assistance: | Provided to: |
|---------------|--|---------------------|--|
| Canada | Sanitary and phytosanitary measures. Implementation of the SPS Agreement: Training on the WTO Agreement on the Application of SPS Measures, the rights and obligations and how to improve technical market access conditions for exports (June 1998) | | Costa Rica; Nicaragua; Panama; Guatemala; Honduras; El Salvador |
| | Research on Bovine and Porcine Brucellosis (September 1998) | | Argentina |
| | Technical expertise on disease surveillance: Represented Canada at the SENASA-OIE sponsored international meeting on animal identification (November 1998) | | Argentina |
| | Worked with Argentina on a collaborative research project supported by IICA (November 1998) | | Argentina |
| | Standards: Advice given to the Ministry of Agriculture's Veterinary Services Laboratory on the requirements for accreditation to ISO Guide 25 Standards and a residue testing program (June 1998) | | Barbados |
| | Risk Assessment. IICA sponsored course on quantitative risk assessment methods (April 1995) | | Brazil |
| | Infrastructure. Discussion with NCFAD representatives on our Level III and Level IV containment laboratories, and also discussion with respect to our animal health programs (Visitors to Canada) (June 1998) | | Brazil |
| | Research. Assisted Sadia Concordia S.A. in Brazil with training in serotyping of Salmonella bacteria and donated somatic and flagellar specific anti-Salmonella antisera. (Visitors to Canada) (1998) | | Brazil |

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|---------|--|---------------------|-------------------|
| Canada | Laboratory standards. Three day workshop at Servicio Agrícola y Ganadero (SAG) on lab standards and quality control (December 1998) | | Chile |
| | Research. Attended a Pan-American Health Organization/World Health Organization meeting on vaccination against Brucellosis and to discuss collaborative research with scientists at Universidad Austari de Chile and Argentina to field test Brucellosis infected herds (November 1999) | | Chile & Argentina |
| | Expert advice. Provided expert advice in the consultation meeting for the recognition of rabies free municipalities (September 1998) | | Cuba |
| | Research; Laboratory standards. International workshop on practices of method validation sponsored by FAO, IAEA, AOAC and IUPAC / attended an expert meeting to write laboratory guidelines for implementation / and presented a paper in the workshop & chaired the experts meeting (November 1999) | | Hungary |
| | Technical expertise. Presented eradication programmes for Avian Leukosis at a symposium on Marek's Disease and Avian Leukosis during the EXPOAVIGA Fair (October 1998) | | Many |
| | Infrastructure. Hosted in the province of Alberta discussions on the development of feeder cattle associations, trade and disease control. (Visitors to Canada) (April 1999) | | Mexico |
| | Expert advice. Evaluation of a laboratory for suitability as a regional rabies reference centre (August 1999) | | Mexico |
| | Risk Assessment. Visit to recognize Mexican states free of Velogenic Newcastle Disease (August 1999) | | Mexico |
| | Research. Collaborative FPA project with personnel at the U. of Baja and the Dept. of Agriculture for the diagnosis of Brucellosis in sheep and goats (January 2000) | | Mexico |

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|---------|---|---------------------|-------------------|
| Canada | Technical expertise. Synchronization of rabies variant identification and production of diagnostic reagents. (Visitors to Canada) (August 1998) | | South Africa |
| | Research. Scientific exchange and collaborative research. (April 1998) | | Thailand |
| | Technical information sharing. Antibiotic training in Canada. (Visitors to Canada) (November 1999) | | Thailand |
| | Research. Established scientific collaboration on current and future research projects at the Centre for Animal Parasitology (CAP) and collected reference and training samples for research and diagnostic use. (December 1999) | | Thailand |
| | Technical information sharing. Infrastructure. Met with program reps to review various components of the Canadian food inspection program / tour of Ontario establishments handling fish, red meat, poultry and the CISC. (Visitors to Canada) (November 1998) | | Trinidad & Tobago |
| | Research. Assisted a researcher from Makerere University, Uganda by serotyping Salmonella strains originating in Uganda, by providing training in serotyping and phage typing and determination of drug resistance of Salmonella, by donating anti-Salmonella antisera and media to isolate and identify Salmonella and by providing advice and guidance. (Visitors to Canada) (1996) | | Uganda |
| | Technical information sharing. Observed and discussed the tests done in the Brucellosis diagnostic lab and the complement fixation test unit and obtained copies of protocols. (Visitors to Canada) (February 1999) | | China |

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| Canada | Research. Spoke at the “International Conference and Exhibition on Veterinary Poultry” and visited the laboratory for animal husbandry and veterinary science to discuss possibilities for collaborative research (July 1999) | | China |
| | Research. Training. Provided Salmonella culture media and antisera reagents, and advice to a member of the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, Debre Zeit Investigation of the prevalence of Salmonella in poultry farms and processed animal products in Addis Ababa. Canadian laboratory also serotyped and phagetyped Salmonella isolates from this study. (Visitors to Canada) (1999) | | Ethiopia |
| | Research. Met with Dr Motallebi in order to obtain updated health conditions for cattle and poultry (September 1998) | | Iran |
| | Research. Undertook an expert mission in support of the technical projects for the animal production and health section of the International Atomic Energy Agency (August 1999) | | Macedonia |
| Italy | SPS Agreement and International Trade, Veterinary Certification, Risk analysis, Control and Inspection Procedures, Technical Assistance, Transparency and Notification Procedures | Training course | Lithuania |
| | Workshop on the assessment & evaluation of processing plants according to EU veterinary hygiene & technical standards, and investment into their up-grading | Training course | Bulgaria, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Poland, Romania, Slovak Republic, Slovenia, |

PLANT HEALTH

| Country | Summary of main technical assistance subjects/actions: | Form of Assistance: | Provided to: |
|----------------|---|----------------------------|--|
| Canada | Risk Assessment. Training on risk assessment procedures consistent with international standards. (Visitors to Canada) (February 1997) | | Chile |
| | Technical information sharing. Verifying the inspection, testing and certification procedures used in Canada. (Visitors to Canada) (October 1999) | | Egypt |
| | Technical expertise sharing. Scientists from CFIA provided protocols and information on how to carry out testing for Bacterial Ring Rot of potatoes. (1999) | | Egypt Saudi Arabia; Morocco |
| | Law and regulation making. Assistance on the development of new legislation regarding plant protection (1998) | | Guatemala; Honduras; El Salvador |
| | Risk Assessment. Training on analysis of likelihood of pest introduction and biological modelling (November 1996) | | India |
| | Risk Assessment. Attended the open-ended working group meeting on Pest Risk Assessment standards being organized by IPPC (May 1999) | | Thailand |
| | Risk Assessment. Collaboration on carrying out a pest fact sheet and pest risk assessment on powdery scab of potatoes (April 1999) | | Uruguay |
| | Risk Assessment. Training on risk assessment procedures consistent with international standards. (Visitors to Canada) (1995-1999) | | China |
| | Verification of compliance. Implementation of the Canadian import directive for wood dunnage, pallets, crating or other wood packing materials originating from China regarding Asian Long Horned Beetle January (1999) | | China |

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| Canada | Risk Assessment. Recognition of standards. Visited the centre of expertise for potato diseases in Charlottetown, to discuss China's pest risk assessment on Canadian seed potatoes. One day visit to Ottawa for discussions on the draft phytosanitary agreement. (Visitors to Canada) (January 2000) | | China |
| | Expert advice. Represented Canada on a joint US and New Zealand mission to the Russian Far East to assist in the development of a plan to prevent infestation of containers and cargo with Asian Gypsy Moth July 1999 | | Russia |
| | Recognition of standards. Phytosanitary discussions between Canada and Ukraine (November 1998) | | Ukraine |