



Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures

**SPS COMMITTEE THEMATIC SESSION ON REGIONALIZATION
TUESDAY, 11 JULY 2017
WTO, CENTRE WILLIAM RAPPARD, GENEVA**

PROGRAMME

The SPS Committee agreed, at its March 2017 meeting, to hold a thematic session on regionalization immediately preceding its July 2017 meeting, based on a proposal submitted by the European Union.¹ This programme was prepared on the basis of contributions received from Members. The session will provide an opportunity for WTO Members to increase their awareness of regionalization principles, and learn from each other by sharing experiences about the challenges, as well as the benefits, of implementing regionalization in practice. This, in turn, should contribute to building confidence among trading partners when recognizing or seeking recognition of their regionalization measures.

The session will focus on animal diseases and allow for the discussion of the implementation of the regionalization concept from the perspective of an importing, as well as an exporting party.

The thematic session will be held in Geneva, Switzerland, on Tuesday, 11 July 2017, beginning at 10 a.m. in Room S1, and continuing in the afternoon at 3 p.m., as necessary.

Chairperson: Mr Marcial Espinola

1 INTERNATIONAL RULES AND GUIDELINES

Provisions of the SPS Agreement on regionalization (Article 6) and relevant guidelines (G/SPS/48)

Speaker: Ms Anneke Hamilton, WTO Secretariat

Relevant jurisprudence on regionalization (Article 6)

Speaker: Ms Marisa Goldstein, WTO Secretariat

OIE standards on regionalization

Speaker: Dr Matthew Stone, Deputy Director-General, OIE

Followed by Q&A session

¹ G/SPS/W/293.

2 SHARING OF NATIONAL EXPERIENCES

Part 1: Exporting Members' perspective

Speakers:

- Dr Andrea Gavinelli, Head of Unit G3 – Official Controls and Eradication of Diseases in Animals, Directorate General for Health and Food Safety, European Commission, **European Union**
- Dr Wolf Maier, Senior Expert, Unit D3 – Agriculture, Sanitary and Phytosanitary Market Access, Biotechnology, Directorate General for Trade, European Commission, **European Union**
Application of regionalization in the EU: The recent experience of HPAI
- Dr Olga Shevchenko, Head of Directorate for International Cooperation Organization, State Service of Ukraine on Food Safety and Consumer Protection, **Ukraine**
Experience of Ukraine in the recognition of HPAI regionalization and BSE risk status by trading partners
- Dr Humberto Ismael Maldonado Caceres, SPS Assessor, Directorate of Administration of Foreign Commerce, Ministry of Economy, **Guatemala**
Classical swine fever in Guatemala: Experiences in surveillance, control and the eradication process, 2013-2017
- Dr Nikolai Vlasov, Deputy Head of the Federal Service for Veterinary and Phytosanitary Surveillance, **Russian Federation**
Russian Federation's experience in the application of the regionalization principle
- Dr Mpho Maja, Director of Animal Health, Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, **South Africa**
Living regionalization

Followed by Q&A session

Part 2: Importing Members' perspective

Speakers:

- Dr Takahiro Kitano DVM, Assistant Director, Animal Health Division, Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (MAFF), **Japan**
Japan's experiences on regionalization
- Dr Joyce Bowling, National Director of the Regionalization Evaluation Services Staff, USDA APHIS Veterinary Services, **United States**
Regionalization Evaluation Services: Recognizing the animal health status of foreign regions

Followed by Q&A session

3 GENERAL DISCUSSION
