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**Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures**

Original: English

## TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE TO DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

### COMMUNICATION FROM CANADA

The following communication, received on 24 October 2017, 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 2016<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 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 2016. 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 \$15.83 million between January and December 2016. 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 12 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. In all, 15 projects are listed for the period January to December 2016. Some of the projects listed are multi-year projects; however, projects are only reported once and generally in the year in which the project is initiated unless subsequent funded project extensions occur.

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<sup>1</sup> Canada has provided technical assistance updates for 2015 (G/SPS/GEN/1522), 2014 (G/SPS/GEN/1426), 2013 (G/SPS/GEN/1342), 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 - DECEMBER 2016**

<b>Sector</b>	<b>Description of Particular Programme</b>	<b>Form of Assistance</b>	<b>Provided to</b>	<b>Contact</b>
Animal Health	National workshop provided to the Costa Rican government on the concept of One Health in support of the Global Health Security Agenda and in collaboration with World Organisation for Animal Health and the Public Health Agency of Canada. (March 2016)	Training	Costa Rica	Rolf.Schoenert@inspection.gc.ca
Animal Health	Meeting with the delegation from Ghana on the margins of the Codex Committee for Food Labelling to introduce Canada's food safety systems and shared responsibilities for food safety. (May 2016)	Information	Ghana	Rolf.Schoenert@inspection.gc.ca
Animal Health	Capacity building training provided to the Directors of Veterinary Vaccine Laboratories of the African Union member states on issues related to vaccine production and registration on the continent. (August 2016)	Funding	African Union member States	vmbao@idrc.ca
Animal Health	Training provided to scientists about Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy Laboratory Diagnostics. (October - November 2016)	Training	Cuba	Rolf.Schoenert@inspection.gc.ca
Animal Health	Training provided to improve capacity for the diagnosis and agent characterization of rabies and transmissible spongiform encephalopathies. This training was also provided to improve knowledge and operational procedures in areas of biosafety/ biosecurity and quality assurance for both diseases, as part of a World Organisation for Animal Health laboratory twinning project between a Canadian laboratory and Peru. (2016 - 2019)	Training	Peru	Rolf.Schoenert@inspection.gc.ca
Food Safety	Training provided to a group of 21 producers/ exporters from Sri Lanka and Tunisia who participated at the Salon International de l'Alimentation (SIAL) Food Trade Show in Montreal hosted by the Trade Facilitation Office. (April 2016)	Training	Sri Lanka and Tunisia	Rolf.Schoenert@inspection.gc.ca
Food Safety	Funding provided to the Codex Trust Fund to assist developing countries and countries in transition in increasing their capacity to sustainably engage in the Codex Alimentarius Commission. (February 2016)	Funding	Developing countries	Rolf.Schoenert@inspection.gc.ca

Sector	Description of Particular Programme	Form of Assistance	Provided to	Contact
Food Safety	Technical training provided to Government representatives on strengthening food safety and veterinary medicine regulatory systems to enhance adoption of Codex Alimentarius Commission standards and guidelines. (February 2016)	Training and Information	Bahamas	Bhavik.thakkar@hc-sc.gc.ca
Food Safety	Funding provided to a Global Food Safety Partnership project to support the improvement of food safety systems in developing and middle-income countries. (2016)	Funding	Developing countries	Rolf.Schoenert@inspection.gc.ca
Food Safety	Information sharing with the Ministry of Health about food safety testing. (October 2016)	Information	Bangladesh	Rolf.Schoenert@inspection.gc.ca
Food Safety	Training focussed on veterinary drug residues and undeclared allergens for government departments and industry organizations in Hanoi and in Ho Chi Minh City. (October – November 2016)	Training and Information	Viet Nam	Rolf.Schoenert@inspection.gc.ca
Food Safety	Technical training provided to Codex officers on strengthening the national Codex program and on enhancing Antigua and Barbuda's ability to participate in and influence international food safety and nutrition standard setting processes. (December 2016)	Training and Information	Antigua and Barbuda	Bhavik.thakkar@hc-sc.gc.ca
Food Safety	Multi-year funding for a project with the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development to develop and improve food safety regulations and increase competitiveness to reach domestic and international markets. (2017–2022)	Funding	Viet Nam	Tom.Bui@international.gc.ca
Plant Health	Training provided to horticulturists from the National Institute of Horticulture and Herbal Science on plant health. (September 2016)	Training	South Korea	Rolf.Schoenert@inspection.gc.ca
Plant Health	Training provided to a scientific expert on the regulatory processes governing genetically modified crops (plants with novel traits). (November to December 2016)	Training	Ethiopia	Rolf.Schoenert@inspection.gc.ca