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Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures

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TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE TO DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

COMMUNICATION FROM CANADA

The following communication, received on 16 October 2019, 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 2018.¹ 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 2018. 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 \$10.60 million between January and December 2018. 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 21 countries – in Africa, Eastern Europe, 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, 19 projects are listed for the period January to December 2018. 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.

¹ Canada has provided technical assistance updates for 2017 (G/SPS/GEN/1651), 2016 (G/SPS/GEN/1584), 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 2018**

Sector	Description of Particular Programme	Form of Assistance	Provided to	Contact
Animal Health	World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) Laboratory Twinning Project between Canada and Peru on Rabies and Transmissible Spongiform Encephalopathies (TSE). Training provided on diagnostics and pathogen characterization of rabies, scrapie and chronic wasting disease to veterinarians from the Virology and Pathology Units of <i>Unidad del Centro Diagnóstico de Sanidad Animal</i> (SENASA-Perú) in Ottawa. (26 May – 9 June 2018 – Rabies; and 3-14 September 2018 - TSE) Assessment/evaluation visit to SENASA-Perú (26 February – 2 March 2018)	Training	Peru	Rolf.Schoenert@canada.ca
Animal Health	AAFC/CFIA/IICA Workshop to increase sanitary and phytosanitary (SPS) risk assessment capacities of countries in the Americas (zoning and compartmentalization following outbreak of an animal disease). This initiative convened countries from the Caribbean, Latin America, and North America to share technical approaches to contain and combat outbreaks of animal disease such as Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza. (26 April 2018)	Funding Training	Costa Rica + 25 OIE member countries in the Americas	Brent.Wilson@canada.ca
Animal Health	Training for staff and postdoctoral fellows at the Kenya Agricultural & Livestock Research Organization (KALRO) as well as representatives from the veterinary services of Burkina Faso and Benin who will act as trainers for others in the region on Contagious Caprine Pleuropneumonia (CCPP) and <i>Mycoplasma capricolum</i> subsp. <i>capripneumoniae</i> (Mccp) & Molecular and serological diagnostic for <i>Ehrlichia ruminantium</i> . (June 2018)	Training	Benin, Burkina Faso, Kenya, Niger	ktienssen@idrc.ca
Animal Health	Training for farm technicians at MCI <i>Santé Animale</i> in Morocco (August 2018)	Training	Morocco	ktienssen@idrc.ca
Plant Health	Support to the second meeting of the International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC) Sea Containers Task Force. (September 2018)	Funding	Includes FAO member developing countries	Brent.Wilson@canada.ca

Sector	Description of Particular Programme	Form of Assistance	Provided to	Contact
Plant Health	Plant biotechnology program to improve the capacity of the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Infrastructure in the development of a seed control system as well as a risk assessment and risk management system for seeds and biotechnology products. (December 2018 - March 2021)	Training	Senegal	Rolf.Schoenert@canada.ca
Food Safety	Technical cooperation mission conducted under offshore preventive control activities to mitigate non-compliance of imported food products. (26 February – 2 March 2018)	Information	Costa Rica, Guatemala, Mexico	Rolf.Schoenert@canada.ca
Food Safety	Technical cooperation mission conducted under offshore preventive control activities to mitigate non-compliance of imported food products. (5-9 March 2018)	Information	India	Rolf.Schoenert@canada.ca
Food Safety	Food Safety Systems study to share information on Canada's regulatory system, laboratory diagnostics and science surveillance work in food safety with Ministry of Science and Technology researcher. (5 September 2018)	Information	Chinese Taipei	Rolf.Schoenert@canada.ca
Food Safety	Canada-Ukraine Trade and Investment Support Study Tour to share information on sanitary and phytosanitary import controls for food products. (17-21 September 2018)	Information	Ukraine	Rolf.Schoenert@canada.ca
Food Safety	Series of two webinars on enforcement and application of the Canadian food allergen labelling regulations. (14 and 21 November 2018)	Information	Chinese Taipei	Rolf.Schoenert@canada.ca
Food Safety	Series of two workshops on enforcement and application of the Canadian food allergen labelling regulations. (15 and 22 November 2018)	Information	Chinese Taipei	Rolf.Schoenert@canada.ca
Plant Health & Food Safety	ePhyto workshop to support the implementation of electronic phytosanitary certificates. (August 2018)	Training	Argentina and other countries in the Americas and the Caribbean	Brent.Wilson@canada.ca
Plant Health & Food Safety	Agriculture Biotechnology Study Tour to study the regulation of biotechnology in Canada. (22-31 October 2018)	Information	Philippines	Rolf.Schoenert@canada.ca

Sector	Description of Particular Programme	Form of Assistance	Provided to	Contact
Animal Health, Plant Health & Food Safety	Support to the joint Food & Agriculture Organization (FAO)/World Health Organization (WHO) scientific advice program. This funding enables additional scientific advice to bodies such as the Codex Alimentarius Commission on pesticides, microbiological risks in food, and nutrition. (February 2018)	Funding	Includes FAO member developing countries	Brent.Wilson@canada.ca
Animal Health, Plant Health & Food Safety	Support to Food & Agriculture Organization (FAO) Genetically Modified Foods Platform community meeting. This initiative brought together a wide number of countries to share information on their assessments of genetically modified foods and feeds based on guidance provided by the Codex Alimentarius. (March 2018)	Funding	Includes FAO member developing countries	Brent.Wilson@canada.ca
Animal Health, Plant Health & Food Safety	Contribution to support the International Symposium on Agricultural Innovation for Family Farmers: Unlocking the potential of agricultural innovation to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals. (March 2018)	Funding	Includes FAO member developing countries	Brent.Wilson@canada.ca
Animal Health, Plant Health & Food Safety	Contribution to WTO – Standards and Trade Development Facility (STDF) to improve regulatory and technical capacity development and use of standards to facilitate trade. (May 2018)	Funding	Includes WTO Member developing countries	Brent.Wilson@canada.ca
Animal Health, Plant Health & Food Safety	This project aims to promote the economic empowerment of women traders in agricultural and agri-food commodities in Eastern Africa by providing women traders various technical support on market access platforms, documentation, safe working spaces and reporting mechanisms. (March 2018 to June 2022)	Capacity Building	Regional South of Sahara Africa, Burundi, Democratic Republic of Congo, Kenya, Rwanda, South Sudan, Tanzania, Uganda	Nikita.Eriksenhamel@international.gc.ca