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Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures

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**SPS COMMITTEE WORKSHOP ON RISK ANALYSIS: RISK ASSESSMENT, MANAGEMENT,
AND COMMUNICATION
MONDAY, 12 JULY – TUESDAY, 13 JULY 2021
WTO, CENTRE WILLIAM RAPPARD, GENEVA**

COMMUNICATION FROM CANADA

Revision

The following document, received on 15 March 2021, is being circulated at the request of the Delegation of Canada.

PROGRAMME

In the context of the Fifth Review of the Operation and Implementation of the Agreement on the Application of Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures (SPS Agreement), Canada submitted a recommendation for the Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures (SPS Committee) to consider holding a workshop on risk assessment, risk management, and risk communication in 2020.

The workshop will explore concepts within Article 5 of the Agreement and related issues concerning the implementation of the Agreement. The workshop will focus on risk assessment, risk management, and risk communication. This workshop builds on the following: the Thematic SPS Workshop on Risk Analysis, which was held on 13-14 October 2014; and the SPS Thematic Session on Risk Communication, which was held on 15 July 2015.

The workshop will be held in Geneva, Switzerland, on 12-13 July 2021, beginning at 10 am.

Chairperson: TBC

1 RISK ASSESSMENT

Explore the concept of risk assessment, including elements such as hazard identification, hazard characterization, exposure assessment, consequence assessment, and risk characterization, and related issues concerning the implementation of relevant provisions of the SPS Agreement. Additionally, challenges with risk assessment can be explored, such as challenges in obtaining and analyzing information required for conducting a risk assessment.

1.1 The SPS Agreement, guidance and relevant disputes

Review of the provisions of the SPS Agreement, Committee guidance and relevant dispute settlement reports related to risk assessment.

Speaker: WTO Secretariat

Followed by Q&A session and discussion

1.2 Relevant international standards

Explore the relevant international standards, guidelines or recommendations relating to risk assessment.

Speakers:

- **Codex Alimentarius**
- **IPPC**
- **OIE**

Followed by Q&A session and discussion

1.3 Sharing of successes, challenges, considerations, impacts and best practices related to risk assessment

Explore and discuss Member, Observer, and academia and non-governmental organization perspectives and experiences related to risk assessment.

1.3.1 Member Perspectives

Speakers: TBC

1.3.2 Observer Perspectives

Speakers: TBC

1.3.3 Academia and Non-Governmental Organization Perspectives

Speakers: TBC

Followed by Q&A session and discussion

2 RISK MANAGEMENT

Explore the concept of risk management, including the evaluation of risk management options, implementation, monitoring and review, and related issues concerning the implementation of relevant provisions of the SPS Agreement. Additionally, challenges with risk management can be explored, such as determining, identifying and evaluating risk management options.

2.1 The SPS Agreement, guidance and relevant disputes

Review of the provisions of the SPS Agreement, Committee guidance and relevant dispute settlement reports related to risk management.

Speaker: WTO Secretariat

Followed by Q&A session and discussion

2.2 Relevant international standards

Explore the relevant international standards, guidelines or recommendations relating to risk management.

Speakers:

- **Codex Alimentarius**
- **IPPC**
- **OIE**

Followed by Q&A session and discussion

2.3 Sharing of successes, challenges, considerations, impacts and best practices related to risk management

Member, Observer, and academia and non-governmental organization perspectives and experiences related to risk management.

2.3.1 Member Perspectives

Speakers: TBC

2.3.2 Observer Perspectives

Speakers: TBC

2.3.3 Academia and Non-Governmental Organization Perspectives

Speakers: TBC

Followed by Q&A session and discussion

3 RISK COMMUNICATION

Explore the concept of risk communication, including how to ensure through internal and external communications that the results of the risk assessment, risk management options, and assumptions and uncertainty of the risk assessment are clearly understood, forming trust, transparency, and confidence in regulatory decisions; challenges associated with significant institutional, capacity, and technical constraints; and related issues concerning the implementation of relevant provisions of the SPS Agreement.

3.1 The SPS Agreement and guidance

Review of the provisions of the SPS Agreement, Committee guidance, and relevant Committee discussions, in particular the Thematic Session on Risk Communication, related to risk communication.

Speaker: WTO Secretariat

Followed by Q&A session and discussion

3.2 Relevant international standards

Explore the relevant international standards, guidelines or recommendations relating to risk communication.

Speakers:

- **Codex Alimentarius**
- **IPPC**
- **OIE**

Followed by Q&A session and discussion

3.3 Sharing of successes, challenges, considerations, impacts and best practices related to risk communication

Explore and discuss Member, Observer, and academia and non-governmental organization perspectives and experiences related to undertaking risk communication.

3.3.1 Member Perspectives

Speakers: TBC

3.3.2 Observer Perspectives

Speakers: TBC

3.3.3 Academia and Non-Governmental Organization Perspectives

Speakers: TBC

Followed by Q&A session and discussion

4 CASE STUDIES

Explore case studies of practical examples of experiences undertaking (i) risk assessment, (ii) risk management, and (iii) risk communication for sanitary and phytosanitary issues in order to examine how these three components of risk analysis are interlinked and where there may be common challenges with the application of these concepts.

Speakers: TBC

Followed by Q&A session and discussion
