

**IMPLEMENTATION OF THE AGREEMENT ON THE APPLICATION
OF SANITARY AND PHYTOSANITARY MEASURES**

Information for the Workshop on 31 March 2006

Communication from Chad

The following communication, received on 28 March 2006, is being circulated at the request of the delegation of Chad.

1. In preparation for the workshop on the implementation of the SPS Agreement, members were asked to submit information on their experiences with respect to the issues to be discussed.

Item 1 concerning Chad's participation in the meetings of the SPS Committee:

- Participation in meetings of the SPS Committee:
 - Ambassador of the Republic of Chad in Geneva
- Information regarding meetings of the SPS Committee:
 - None of the State and parastatal structures concerned receive any information/records of the proceedings.

Item 2 concerning the SPS national committee:

- Existence of an SPS national committee:
 - Chad has not yet set up an SPS national committee;
 - In the framework of the Economic Partnership Agreement between the Central African Economic and Monetary Community/Sao Tome and Principe (CEMAC/STP) and the European Union, the Ministry of Commerce and Handicrafts is conducting and coordinating the work of the National Negotiating Committee which is in charge, among other things, of identifying national priorities, and of preparing and following up in the negotiations and participating in them at the regional level;
 - There are plans to launch a technological assistance programme at the CEMAC level. Programme for the introduction of a CEMAC "quality" system, accreditation/certification, standardization, quality promotion and SPS in order to

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encourage progressive alignment and compliance with international standards in general, and those of the European Union in particular. In this context there are plans to set up an authority for food safety in Central Africa (ASPAC);

- At the level of the Permanent Inter-State Committee for Drought Control in the Sahel (CILSS), a memorandum of understanding has been signed between the Sahelien Pesticides Committee and the inter-professional association Liaison Committee Europe-Africa-Caribbean-Pacific (COLEACP) calling for intervention by the Pesticides Initiatives Programme. The purpose of this memorandum is to build up the capacity of the Sahelien Pesticides Committee (CSP) with a view to assisting it in its task of officially approving pesticides at the regional level and participating effectively in the efforts to bring the exports of the countries of the subregion into conformity with European food quality and traceability regulations;
- Pan African Programme for the Control of Epizootics (PACE).

The information exchange mechanisms to be set up within these different structures and programmes should make it possible to ensure at the national level that the stakeholders are informed in a timely manner of the new SPS requirements and to identify domestic and foreign partners.

Item 3 concerning modalities for implementing the SPS Agreement in Chad:

- The modalities for implementing the SPS Agreement are examined and planned within the regional structures and programmes mentioned above. They can be adapted to domestic realities.

Item 4 concerning technical assistance:

- Technical assistance needs are also identified in the framework of the above-mentioned regional programmes. The same applies to the identification of priority areas.
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