

**Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures**

**DOCUMENTS AND OTHER INFORMATION ON PRIVATE STANDARDS**

Note by the Secretariat<sup>1</sup>

**I. DOCUMENTS ON PRIVATE STANDARDS CIRCULATED IN THE SPS COMMITTEE**

<b>Author / submitted by</b>	<b>Document symbol and date</b>	<b>Title and content/type of document</b>
<b>WTO Secretariat</b>	G/SPS/GEN/746 24 January 2007	<b>Private Standards and the SPS Agreement</b> Background note by the Secretariat – History, types of standards, trade issues
<b>ISO</b>	G/SPS/GEN/750 16 February 2007	<b>Submission by the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) to the SPS Committee Meeting - 28 February and 1 March 2007</b> Information on ISO standards in the SPS area
<b>UNCTAD</b>	G/SPS/GEN/760 26 February 2007	<b>Typology of Global Standards</b> Overview of types of standards and implications for small-scale producers
<b>UNCTAD</b>	G/SPS/GEN/761 &Corr.1 26 February 2007	<b>Private Sector Standards and Developing Country Exports of Fresh Fruit and Vegetables</b> Information on country case studies in the fresh fruit and vegetable sector carried out in the context of a project under the umbrella of UNCTAD's Consultative Task Force on Environmental Requirements and Market Access for Developing Countries (CTF)
<b>OECD</b>	G/SPS/GEN/763 27 February 2007	<b>Private Voluntary Standards and Developing Country Market Access: Preliminary Results</b> Information on a study on impacts of private standards based on four country case studies

<sup>1</sup> This document has been prepared under the Secretariat's own responsibility and is without prejudice to the positions of Members or to their rights or obligations under the WTO.

Author / submitted by	Document symbol and date	Title and content/type of document
<b>Bahamas</b>	G/SPS/GEN/764 28 February 2007	<b>Report by the Commonwealth of the Bahamas to the WTO-SPS Committee on Private Standards and the SPS Agreement: the Bahamas Experience</b>  Experiences (positive and negative) with private standards
<b>St. Vincent &amp; the Grenadines</b>	G/SPS/GEN/766 28 February 2007	<b>Private Industry Standards</b>  Concerns related to private standards
<b>Ecuador</b>	G/SPS/GEN/792 5 July 2007	<b>Private and Commercial Standards</b>  Statement by Ecuador at the Meeting of 27-28 June 2007 - Concerns and issues for discussion
<b>DFID</b>	G/SPS/GEN/802 9 October 2007	<b>Private Voluntary Standards within the WTO Multilateral Framework</b>  Legal analysis by Mr. Digby Gascoine in collaboration with O'Connor and Company
<b>OIE</b>	G/SPS/GEN/822 25 February 2008	<b>Considerations Relevant to Private Standards in the Field of Animal Health, Food Safety and Animal Welfare</b>  OIE concerns about the potential for private standards to restrict trade
<b>Uruguay</b>	G/SPS/GEN/843 21 May 2008	<b>Private Standards</b>  Statement by Uruguay at the Meeting of 2-3 April 2008 - Concerns about private standards
<b>Uruguay</b>	G/SPS/W/225 18 June 2008	<b>Terms of Reference for the Working Group on Private Standards</b>  Proposal by Uruguay

1. Discussions in the SPS Committee on private standards are summarized in the following meeting reports: G/SPS/R/37 (meeting of 29-30 June 2005); G/SPS/R/39 (meeting of 24 October 2005, resumed on 1-2 February 2006); G/SPS/R/43 (meeting of 11-12 October 2006); G/SPS/R/44 (meeting of 28 February-1 March 2007); G/SPS/R/45 (meeting of 27-28 June 2007); G/SPS/R/46 (meeting of 18-19 October 2007); G/SPS/R/49 (meeting of 2-3 April 2008).

## II. INFORMATION AVAILABLE ON THE WTO WEBSITE

2. Information on the Joint UNCTAD/WTO Informal Information Session on Private Standards held on 25 June 2007, including presentations, is available at:

[http://www.wto.org/english/tratop\\_e/spis\\_e/private\\_standards\\_june07\\_e/private\\_standards\\_june07\\_e.htm](http://www.wto.org/english/tratop_e/spis_e/private_standards_june07_e/private_standards_june07_e.htm)

3. Information on the STDF Information Session on Private Standards held on 26 June 2008, including presentations and podcasts, is available at:

[http://www.wto.org/english/tratop\\_e/sps\\_e/private\\_standards\\_june08\\_e/private\\_standards\\_june08\\_e.htm](http://www.wto.org/english/tratop_e/sps_e/private_standards_june08_e/private_standards_june08_e.htm)

### III. OTHER RESOURCES AVAILABLE ONLINE

4. The following is a non-exhaustive list of some of the documents regarding private standards relevant to SPS measures of which the Secretariat is aware. Members and Observers who wish to suggest the addition of other documents to this list are invited to so inform the Secretariat (Christiane.Wolff@wto.org).

#### A. FAO

5. The following documents are available from the FAO website:

- A Practical Manual for Producers and Exporters from Asia: Regulations, Standards and Certification for Agricultural Exports; 2007; available in English, Bahasa, Myanmar, Thai, Vietnamese and Chinese at: <http://www.fao.org/docrep/010/ag130e/ag130e00.htm>.
- A Practical Manual for Producers and Exporters from East Africa: Regulations, Standards and Certification for Agricultural Exports; 2006; available in English at: <http://www.fao.org/docrep/010/a0791e/a0791e00.HTM>.
- A Qualitative Assessment of Standards and Certification Schemes Applicable to Aquaculture in the Asia-Pacific Region; 2007; available in English at: <http://www.fao.org/docrep/010/ai388e/ai388e00.htm>.
- Private Standards in the United States and European Union Markets for Fruit and Vegetables: Implications for Developing Countries; 2007; available in English at: <http://www.fao.org/docrep/010/a1245e/a1245e00.HTM>.
- Food Safety Certification; 2006, (on existing food safety certification programmes and their potential impact on global food trade); available in English at: <ftp://ftp.fao.org/docrep/fao/008/ag067e/ag067e00.pdf>.

#### B. OECD

6. The following papers are available from the OECD website:

- Final Report on Private Standards and the Shaping of the Agro-Food System; AGR/CA/APM(2006)9/FINAL; 31 July 2006; available in English and French at: [http://www.oilis.oecd.org/olis/2006doc.nsf/linkto/agr-ca-apm\(2006\)9-final](http://www.oilis.oecd.org/olis/2006doc.nsf/linkto/agr-ca-apm(2006)9-final).
- Private Standard Schemes and Developing Country Access to Global Value Chains: Challenges and Opportunities Emerging from four Case Studies; AGR/CA/APM(2006)20/FINAL; 5 October 2007; available in English and French at: [http://www.oilis.oecd.org/olis/2006doc.nsf/linkto/agr-ca-apm\(2006\)20-final](http://www.oilis.oecd.org/olis/2006doc.nsf/linkto/agr-ca-apm(2006)20-final).
- Market Access and Private Standards: Case Study of the Chilean Fruit Markets; AGR/CA/APM(2005)27/FINAL; 16 October 2007; available in English and French at: [http://www.oilis.oecd.org/olis/2005doc.nsf/linkto/agr-ca-apm\(2005\)27-final](http://www.oilis.oecd.org/olis/2005doc.nsf/linkto/agr-ca-apm(2005)27-final).

- Market Access and Private Standards: Case Study of the Peruvian Fruit and Vegetable Markets; AGR/CA/APM(2006)23/FINAL; 10 September 2007; available in English and French at: [http://www.oalis.oecd.org/olis/2006doc.nsf/linkto/agr-ca-apm\(2006\)23-final](http://www.oalis.oecd.org/olis/2006doc.nsf/linkto/agr-ca-apm(2006)23-final).
- Market Access and Private Standards: Case Study of the Ghana Fruit Markets; AGR/CA/APM(2006)22/FINAL; 12 September 2007; available in English and French at: [http://www.oalis.oecd.org/olis/2006doc.nsf/linkto/agr-ca-apm\(2006\)22-final](http://www.oalis.oecd.org/olis/2006doc.nsf/linkto/agr-ca-apm(2006)22-final).
- Market Access and Private Standards: Case Study of the South African Fruit Market; AGR/CA/APM(2005)28/FINAL; 12 September 2007; available in English and French at: [http://www.oalis.oecd.org/olis/2005doc.nsf/linkto/agr-ca-apm\(2005\)28-final](http://www.oalis.oecd.org/olis/2005doc.nsf/linkto/agr-ca-apm(2005)28-final)

#### C. UNCTAD

7. The following publications are all available from the UNCTAD website at [http://www.unctad.org/trade\\_env/documentsPUBLI.asp](http://www.unctad.org/trade_env/documentsPUBLI.asp):

- Private-Sector Standards and National Schemes for Good Agricultural Practices: Implications for Exports of Fresh Fruit and Vegetables from sub-Saharan Africa: Experiences of Ghana, Kenya, and Uganda. Symbol: UNCTAD/DITC/TED/2007/13. Date: April 2008; available in English.
- Challenges and Opportunities Arising from Private Standards on Food Safety and Environment for Exporters of Fresh Fruit and Vegetables in Asia: Experiences of Malaysia, Thailand and Viet Nam. Symbol: UNCTAD/DITC/TED/2007/6. Date: Feb 2008; available in English.
- The Implications of Private-Sector Standards for Good Agricultural Practices: Exploring Options to Facilitate Market Access for Developing-country Exporters of Fruit and Vegetables: Experiences of Argentina, Brazil and Costa Rica. Symbol: UNCTAD/DITC/TED/2007/2. Date: Nov 2007; available in English.
- Food Safety and Environmental Requirements in Export Markets - Friend or Foe for Producers of Fruit and Vegetables in Asian Developing Countries? Symbol: UNCTAD/DITC/TED/2006/8. Date: Aug 2007; available in English.
- Requisitos Ambientales, Competitividad Internacional y Acceso a Mercados en América Central, Cuba y la República Dominicana: Contexto internacional y experiencias nacionales, con referencia especial a los productos agrícolas. Symbol: UNCTAD/DITC/TED/2006/1. Date: May 2007; available in Spanish.

#### D. WORLD BANK

8. Information on the World Bank's project on "Challenges and Opportunities Associated with International Agro-Food Standards", including ten country case studies, industrialized country buyer surveys and other information is available (in English) at:

<http://web.worldbank.org/WBSITE/EXTERNAL/TOPICS/TRADE/0,,contentMDK:20334931~menuPK:634021~pagePK:148956~piPK:216618~theSitePK:239071,00.html>

E. OTHER SOURCES OF INFORMATION

(i) *Agrifoodstandards.net*

9. The agrifoodstandards.net website contains many useful resources on small-scale producers and standards in agrifood supply chains, including the Fresh Insights and Fresh Perspectives series (in English): <http://www.agrifoodstandards.net>.

(ii) *Global Food Safety Initiative*

10. The Global Food Safety Initiative has published a position paper on standards, cooperation and harmonization in the global food industry. It is available in English at: <http://www.ciesnet.com/pfiles/programmes/foodsafety/2008-GFSI-Position-Paper.pdf>.

(iii) *Trade Standards Practitioners Network*

11. The Trade Standards Practitioners Network website contains articles and much useful information on standards-related projects, as well as on standards schemes on different issues and products (in English): <http://www.tradestandards.org>.

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