

**REPORT ON SPS ACTIVITIES OF THE
PLANT QUARANTINE AND PHYTOSANITARY SERVICE**

Communication from Zambia

The following communication, received on 4 March 2010, is being circulated at the request of the Delegation of Zambia.

A. STRENGTHENING OF THE NATIONAL SPS COMMITTEE (NSPSC)

1. On 26 February 2010, with the help of the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA) and the African Union - Inter Bureau for Animal Resources (AU-IBAR), and funded by the European Union, Zambia held a national workshop with the objective to examine modalities to strengthen the National SPS Committee (NSPSC). All members (plant health, animal health, food safety, Zambia Bureau of Standards, Ministry of Commerce, Trade and Industry, Zambia Revenue Authority) participated. We intend to have another workshop where the private sector will be invited to participate.

B. REGIONAL SPS MEETING

2. Zambia hosted selected countries in the COMESA region for a regional SPS workshop with the objective of introducing the PAN-SPS Project housed at COMESA, Lusaka, Zambia. One of the objectives of the project is to assist participation of African nations in the International Standard-Setting Bodies.

C. SPS WORKSHOP FOR FARMERS

3. Through the financial assistance of the Southern Africa Confederation of Agricultural Unions (SACAU), through the Zambia National Farmers Union (ZNFU), Zambia had a training workshop with farmers on SPS matters. This was to enlighten Zambian farmers on SPS issues and international trade.

D. SURVEY PROGRAMMES

Seed crop inspection:

4. Zambia has just finished the Seed Crop Inspection across the country. This activity is done yearly in all farms growing seed for export so as to ensure that the parent plants are inspected during active growth and all pests found are recorded in order to facilitate safe trade.

Pest Survey:

5. The pest survey is a continuous activity. It includes surveys for fruit flies, Potato Cysts Nematodes, Banana Bunchy Top Virus, Cassava Mosaic Virus and American Foulbrood.

E. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

6. We wish to thank SACAU, COMESA, AU-IBAR, the European Union and the WTO for their continual support.
