

Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures

**REVIEW OF THE OPERATION AND IMPLEMENTATION
OF THE SPS AGREEMENT**

Submissions by Members of Issues to be considered during the Review

Note by the Secretariat

1. At its meeting of 22-23 June 2004, the SPS Committee adopted a procedure and timetable to undertake the review of the operation and implementation of the Agreement on the Application of Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures ("the Agreement") pursuant to the decision taken at the Fourth Session of the Ministerial Conference.¹ According to the agreed calendar, Members were invited to identify issues for consideration as part of the review by 30 July 2004. The following Members have identified issues: People's Republic of China, Cuba, the European Communities and New Zealand.
2. The issues identified for consideration relate to:
 - Transparency (Article 7 and Annex B);
 - Special and Differential Treatment (Article 10);
 - Regionalization (Article 6);
 - Monitoring the use of international standards (Articles 3.5 and 12.4);
 - Control, Inspection and Approval Procedures (Article 8 and Annex C);
 - Technical Assistance (Article 9);
 - Equivalence (Article 4); and
 - Administration/Monitoring the implementation of the SPS Agreement (Article 12).
3. Members were also invited to submit any written comments on the background paper prepared by the Secretariat² and/or requests for background information on additional specific issues by 30 July 2004. To date, no written submissions have been received in this regard.
4. Members are invited to submit papers on the issues proposed for consideration and to identify any further issues for consideration during the review by **12 October 2004**.

¹ G/SPS/W/147

² JOB(04)71