

WORLD TRADE
ORGANIZATION

RESTRICTED

G/SPS/W/32

10 November 1995

(95-3494)

Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures

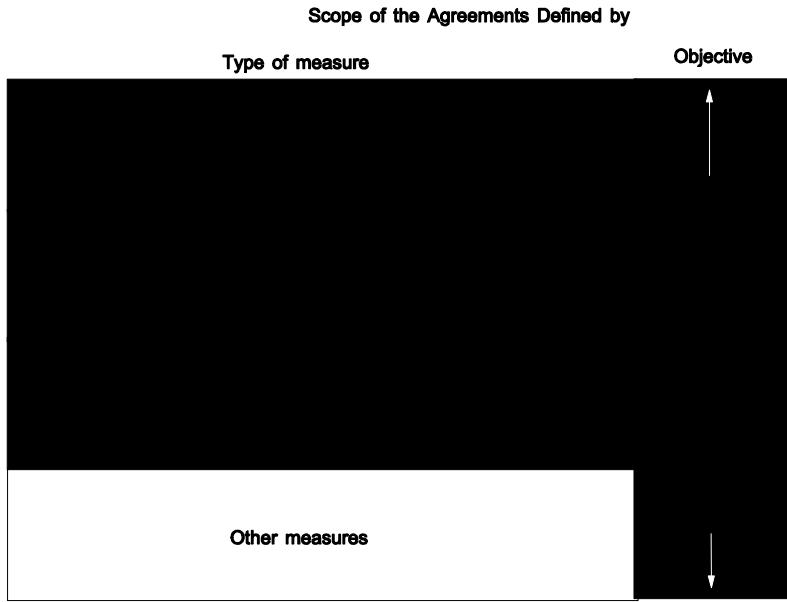
**GRAPHS ON THE COVERAGE OF
THE SPS AND TBT AGREEMENTS**

Note by the Secretariat

The attached five graphs were presented at the Special Joint meeting of the TBT and SPS Committees on Procedures for Information Exchange, 6-7 November 1995. The graphs and examples are intended to help clarify the distinction between SPS and TBT measures in order to facilitate a better understanding of the different coverage of the two Agreements and, subsequently, to facilitate the correct notification of such measures.

Coverage of
SPS and TBT
Agreements

Graph 1

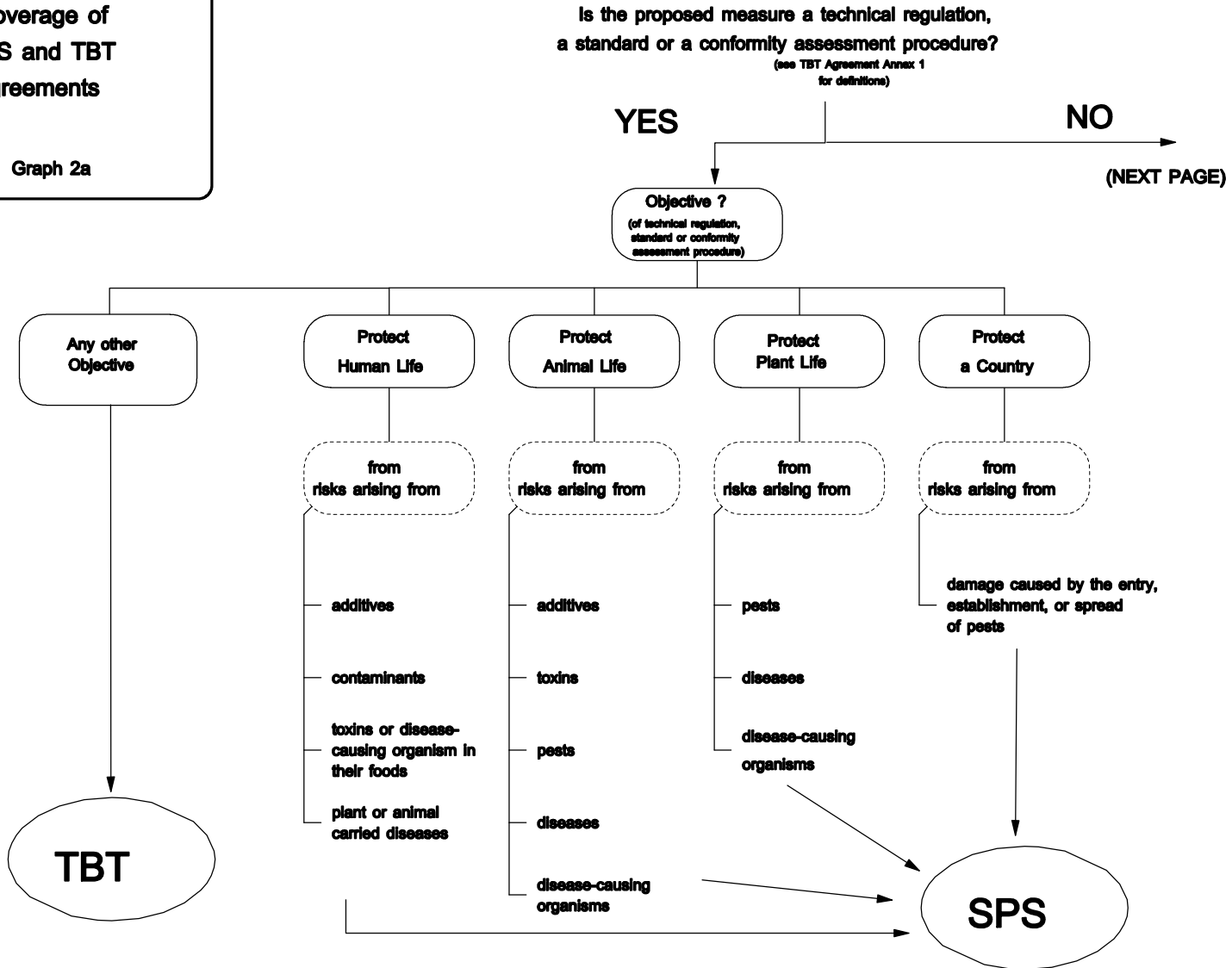


■ TBT

■ SPS

**Coverage of
SPS and TBT
Agreements**

Graph 2a



Is the proposed measure a technical regulation,
a standard or a conformity assessment procedure?

(see TBT Agreement Annex 1
for definitions)

YES

NO

(PREVIOUS PAGE)

Objective

Protect
Human Life

Protect
Animal Life

Protect
Plant Life

Protect
A Country

Other
Purpose

from risks arising from...

- additives
- contaminants
- toxins
- plant or animal
carried diseases

- additives
- toxins
- pests
- diseases
- disease-causing
organisms

- pests
- diseases
- disease-causing
organisms

- damage caused by
entry, establishment or
spread of pests.

SPS

Coverage of
SPS and TBT
Agreements

Graph 2b

Not
covered by
SPS Agreement

**Illustrative list of measures
included in
the two Agreements**

Graph 3

TBT

- **labelling of food, beverages and drug products**
- **quality requirement for fresh food products**
- **packaging requirements for fresh food products**
- **packaging and labelling of dangerous chemicals and toxic substances**
- **regulations for home electrical appliances**
- **type approval procedures, regulations and standards for cordless telephones, terminal and radio equipment**
- **labelling of textiles**
- **regulations and testing of road and non-road vehicles and accessories**
- **regulations for ships and ship equipment**
- **regulations and testing of medical instruments**
- **safety regulations for toys**
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-
-

SPS

- **food additives in foods or beverages**
- **contaminants in foods or beverages**
- **toxins in foods or beverages**
- **veterinary drugs or pesticide residues in food**
- **residues of veterinary drugs in food**
- **certification of food safety / animal or plant health certificates**
- **processing methods with implications for food safety**
- **labelling requirements directly related to food safety**
- **plant / animal quarantine**
- **requirements for the establishment of pest / disease free areas**
- **procedures related to the prevention of spread, control and/or eradication of pests / diseases to a country**
- **sanitary requirements on other imported products, i.e., imported pallets used for transport of animals**
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-

Examples

Graph 4

The following examples are intended to show how the objective of a measure may be decisive with regard to what Agreement it would fall under:

Regulation regarding fertilizers

- SPS If relating to residues in food or animal feed, and the objective is one of protecting human / animal health
- TBT If related to the quality or efficacy of the product, or health risk to handlers

Establishment of labelling requirements for foods

- SPS If related to food safety
- TBT If the regulation concerns issues such as: positioning, letter size, nutrient content, grade, etc.

Regulation regarding containers for the shipment of grains

- SPS If relating to fumigation or other treatment of these containers, i.e., disinfection in order to prevent the spread of disease
- TBT If the regulation regards the size or structure of the containers

Examples
Graph 5

Example 1

Products covered
Fruits

Description of content
Treatment procedures for imported fruits in order to prevent the spread of pests

Objective and rationale
Protection of plant health

Example 2

Products covered
Bottled water

Description of content
Specifications regarding the material the bottles are made of, and treatment of such bottles

Objective and rationale

Bottles shall be made of materials that are not harmful to human health. Disinfectants used for cleaning such bottles shall be completely removed prior to bottling so as not to contaminate the water.

Objective and rationale

Bottles shall be made in specific sizes to ensure standardized volumes. The shape of the bottle must conform to requirements for stacking and displays.

Example 3

Products covered
Fruits

Description of content
Requirements on the quality and labelling of the imported fruit

Objective and rationale
Quality / consumer information

SPS

TBT

