

WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION

RESTRICTED

WT/ACC/LAO/13/Rev.4
29 March 2011

(11-1545)

**Working Party on the
Accession of the Lao PDR**

Original: English

ACCESSION OF THE LAO PDR

Action Plan on the Legislative Work and Implementation of the WTO Agreement
on the Application of Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures (SPS)

Revision

The following submission, dated 16 March 2011, is being circulated at the request of the Delegation of the Lao People's Democratic Republic (Lao PDR).

Issues	Actions	Implementation Timeframe	Technical Assistance Provided/Sought
1. Food Safety	Regulation on Bottled Drinking Water, No. 585/MOH, dated 12 May 2006	Adopted in 2006	TA including recommendations received from FAO and WHO.
	Regulation on Production, Exported-Imported Safe Food, No. 586/MOH, dated 12 May 2006	Adopted in 2006	TA including recommendations received from FAO and WHO.
	National Policy on Food Safety, No. 028/PM dated 3 February 2009	Adopted in 2009	TA including recommendations received from FAO and WHO. TA received from Trade Development Facility (TDF) for publication, dissemination and training for all stakeholders.
	Regulation on Basic Principles in Application of Sanitary and Technical Measures in Food Safety Management in accordance with the SPS Agreement (formerly referred to as Decree on Implementation of Food Law)	Adopted in 2009	Recommendations received from FAO and WHO. TA received from TDF for publication, dissemination and training for all stakeholders.
	Regulation on Labelling of Pre-Packaged Food	Adopted in 2009	TA received from WHO on drafting.
	Regulation on Food Inspection (formerly referred to as Regulation on Food Control System)	Regulation being drafted by MOH and to be adopted by 2011	TA received from WHO and FAO in drafting regulation and to be requested from TDF and WHO for finalizing the regulation and guidelines as well as training for food inspector.
	Regulation on Food Additives	Expect to be adopted in March 2011	TA to be requested from TDF, FAO and WHO for drafting and finalizing the regulation.
	Adopting Codex Alimentarius Standards for Lao PDR	Expect to be adopted in March 2011	TA to be requested from TDF for translation, publication, training and implementation.
	National Association of Testing Authority (NATA)'s assessment on ISO 17025 accreditation for microbiology testing laboratory	Started in 2009 On-going	TA received from UNIDO.
	Improving food processing by introducing food hygiene practice, GMP	GMP Guidelines developed and training provided in 2009-2010.	TA provided by EC, FAO and WHO in November 2009 for training and developing guidelines. TA requested from Japan for GMP through APO project.

Issues	Actions	Implementation Timeframe	Technical Assistance Provided/Sought
2. Animal Health	Livestock Production and Veterinary Law No. 03/NA, dated 25 July 2008 (formerly referred to as the Veterinary Law)	Adopted in 2008	Recommendations received from FAO and EU. TA requested from FAO and TDF for publication, dissemination and training for all stakeholders.
	Law on Fisheries	Adopted in 2009	TA received for publication, dissemination and training for all stakeholders. TA received from TDF for translation.
	Ministerial Decision on Animal Slaughtering and Animal Product Inspection (formerly referred to as Decree on Meat Inspection)	Adopted in March 2011	Recommendations received from EU. TA to be requested for publication, translation, and dissemination.
	The amendment of Decree on Inspection of Live Animals on Import and Transit	To be adopted in December 2011	Recommendations received from EU and USAID.
	The amendment of Decree on Animal Epidemic Diseases	To be adopted in December 2011	Recommendations received from EU and USAID.
	Decree on Livestock Production Management	Decree is unnecessary as required provisions already included in Livestock Production and Veterinary Law	N/A
	Decree on Animal Quarantine	Decree is unnecessary as required provisions already included in Livestock Production and Veterinary Law	N/A
	Establishment of a diagnostic laboratory	Design finished in 2010	Implementation funding requested from the World Bank.
	Identification of animal disease free areas	To begin in September 2011	TA to be requested. ADB and World Bank under process of designing programme to get accreditation from OIE.
	Regulation on Principles in the Application of SPS Measures in Plant and Animal Administration	To be adopted in December 2011	TA to be received from USAID.
Regulation on Criteria for Livestock Production and Veterinary Business	To be Adopted in December 2011	N/A	

Issues	Actions	Implementation Timeframe	Technical Assistance Provided/Sought
3. Plant Health	Law on Plant Protection and Quarantine (formerly referred to as Law on Plant Protection and Plant Quarantine)	Adopted in 2008	Recommendations received from FAO legal experts, practices of neighbouring countries. TA received from TDF for publication, dissemination, translation and training for all stakeholders.
	Decree on Implementing on Plant Protection and Quarantine [formerly referred to as Regulation on Plant Quarantine]	To be adopted by 2011	TA requested from TDF for drafting the update.
	Regulation on Good Agriculture Product	Adopted in 2010	
	Regulation on Plant Inspection and Certification	To be drafted by 2011	TA requested from TDF for drafting the regulation.
	Establishment of a laboratory on plant diseases and pests	Deferred	No funding.
	Identification of pest and disease free areas	To be completed in 2012	TA to be requested.
	Regulation on Pesticide Management	Adopted in 2010	TA requested from TDF for translation and publication.
4. Information Procedures	Decree on Notification and Enquiry of Trade Related Information No. 363/PM (formerly referred to as Decree on the SPS and TBT Notification Centre and Enquiry Points)	Adopted in 2010	TA received from EU on drafting and to be requested from USAID and ADB for implementation.
	Establishment of SPS Enquiry Point under Decree on Notification and Enquiry of Trade Related Information No. 363/PM	Operational upon Accession	TA requested from USAID and ADB for implementation.
	Decision on SPS Enquiry Point being prepared to strengthen coordination among notification unit, enquiry points and relevant authorities. Address of SPS Enquiry Point: Department of Planning, Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry PO Box 811, Vientiane Capital, Lao PDR Tel: 85621-415363 Fax: 85621-412343	To be adopted in June 2011	TA received from USAID and ADB.

Issues	Actions	Implementation Timeframe	Technical Assistance Provided/Sought
	<p>Establishment of SPS and TBT Notification Unit under Decree on Notification and Enquiry of Trade Related Information No. 363/PM</p> <p>Decision on SPS and TBT Notification Unit, No 0471/MOIC, dated 09 March 2011</p> <p>Address of SPS and TBT Notification Unit: Foreign Trade Policy Department, Ministry of Industry and Commerce. P.O. Box 4107, Phonexay Road, Vientiane Capital, Lao PDR Tel: 85621-450065 Fax: 85621-450066 Website: www.m-lao.com/ftpd</p>	<p>Operational upon Accession</p> <p>Adopted in March 2011</p>	<p>TA requested from USAID and ADB for implementation, e.g. establishment of database, training of relevant staff on the SPS and TBT Agreements including through exchange experiences and study visit.</p>

Note: Lao PDR will ensure that its legal framework on food safety, animal and plant health is in compliance with the SPS Agreement by 31 December 2012. Full implementation of the SPS Agreement is 31 December 2014, taking into consideration of national capacity and the provision of technical assistance mentioned above.