

# WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION

RESTRICTED

WT/ACC/LAO/13/Rev.7  
25 July 2012

(12-4084)

---

**Working Party on the  
Accession of 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 25 July 2012, 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 No. 585/MoH "On Bottled Drinking Water" of 12 May 2006	Adopted in May 2006	TA received from FAO and WHO.
	Regulation No. 586/MoH "On Production, Exported-Imported Safe Food" of 12 May 2006	Adopted in May 2006	TA received from FAO and WHO.
	National Policy No. 028/PMO "On Food Safety" of 3 February 2009	Adopted in February 2009	TA received from FAO and WHO.  TA received from Trade Development Facility (TDF) for publication, dissemination and training for all stakeholders.
	Regulation No. 518/MoH "On Basic Principles in Application of Sanitary and Technical Measures in Food Safety Management in accordance with the SPS Agreement" of 18 March 2009	Adopted in March 2009	TA received from FAO and WHO on drafting.  TA received from TDF for publication, dissemination and training for all stakeholders.
	Regulation No. 519/MoH "On Labelling of Pre-Packaged Food" of 18 March 2009	Adopted in March 2009	TA received from the WHO on drafting.
	Decision No. 297/MOH "On Food Inspection" of 24 February 2012	Adopted in February 2012	TA received from TDF, FAO legal expert has been employed for finalizing the regulation.
	Regulation "On Food Additives"	Adopted under Ministerial Decision No. 605/MoH "On Adopting Codex Alimentarius Standards as Priorities" of 27 April 2011	TA requested from TDF for translation, publication, training and implementation.
	Ministerial Decision No. 605/MoH,"On Adopting Codex Alimentarius Standards" of 27 April 2011	Adopted in April 2011	TA 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	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	Law No. 03/NA "On Livestock Production and Veterinary" of 25 July 2008	Adopted in July 2008	Recommendations received from FAO and EU.  TA received from FAO and TDF for publication, dissemination and training for all stakeholders.
	Law No. 03/NA "On Fisheries" of 9 July 2009	Adopted in July 2009	TA received from TDF for publication, dissemination and training for all stakeholders.
	Ministerial Decision No. 0870/MAF "On Animal Slaughtering and Animal Product Inspection" of 18 March 2011	Adopted in March 2011	Recommendations received from EU.
	Decree No. 230/GoL "On the Control of the Movement of Animal, Animal Product and Related Item" of 4 June 2012 (formerly referred to as Amendment of Decree on Livestock and Livestock Products Movement Control)	Adopted in June 2012	TA received from FAO, TDF and USAID.
	Decree No. 228/GoL "On Animal Disease Control and Prevention" of 31 May 2012 (formerly referred to as Amendment of Decree on Animal Epidemic Diseases)	Adopted in May 2012	TA received from FAO, TDF and USAID.
	Establishment of a diagnostic laboratory	Completed in December 2011. BSL.3 system was installed. Equipment moved in from the old laboratory.	Implementation funding requested from the World Bank.
	Identification of animal disease free areas  Regulation on Establishment of Animal Disease Free Area or Compartmentalization	The principles were included in Decree No. 228/GoL "On Animal Disease Control and Prevention" of 31 May 2012	ADB and World Bank under process of designing programme to get accreditation from OIE.
	Regulation No. 0039/MAF "On Principles in the Application of SPS Measures in Plant and Animal Administration" of 11 January 2012	Adopted in January 2012	TA received from USAID.

Issues	Actions	Implementation Timeframe	Technical Assistance Provided/Sought
	Regulation "On Criteria for Livestock Production and Veterinary Business "	Incorporated in Decree No. 230/GoL "On the Control of the Movement of Animals, Animal Product and Related Item" of 4 June 2012 and Decree No. 228/GoL "On Animal Disease Control and Prevention" of 31 May 2012	TA received from FAO, TDF and USAID.
3. Plant Health	Law No 06/NA "On Plant Protection and Quarantine" of 9 December 2008	Adopted in 2008	<p>Recommendations received from FAO legal experts, practices of neighbouring countries.</p> <p>TA received from TDF for publication, dissemination, translation and training for all stakeholders.</p>
	Decree No. 229/GoL "On Implementation of the Law on Plant Protection" of 31 May 2012	Adopted in May 2012	TA received from FAO, TDF and USAID.
	Regulation "On Good Agriculture Practices	Adopted in 2010	
	Guideline on Inspection and Certification Procedures for Plants, Plant Products and Related Articles (formerly refers to as the Regulation "On Plant Inspection and Certification").	Incorporated in Decree No. 229/GoL "On Implementation of the Law on Plant Protection" of 31 May 2012	TA received from FAO and TDF.
	Establishment of a laboratory on plant diseases and pests	Deferred	No funding.
	Identification of pest and disease free areas	Basic principles incorporated in Decree No. 229/GoL "On Implementation of the Law on Plant Protection" of 31 May 2012	
	Ministerial Decision No. 2860/MAF "On Control of Pesticides in Lao PDR" of 11 June 2010 (formerly referred to as the Regulation "On Pesticide Management")	Adopted in 2010	TA requested from TDF for translation and publication.
4. Information Procedures	Decree No. 363/PM "On Notification and Enquiry of Trade Related Information" of 19 August 2010 (formerly referred to as Decree "On the SPS and TBT Notification Centre and Enquiry Points")	Adopted in August 2010	TA received from EU on drafting and received from USAID and ADB for implementation.

Issues	Actions	Implementation Timeframe	Technical Assistance Provided/Sought
	<p>Establishment of SPS Enquiry Point under Decree No. 363/PM "On Notification and Enquiry of Trade Related Information" of 19 August 2010</p> <p>Decision No. 1502/MAF "On SPS Enquiry Point" of 23 June 2011 was adopted to strengthen coordination among notification unit, enquiry points and relevant authorities.</p> <p>Address of SPS Enquiry Point:  Division of Agriculture and Forestry  Department of Planning  Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry  P.O. Box 811 Vientiane, Lao PDR  Tel: +856 21 415363  Fax: +856 21 412343  Email: spsenquiries@laotradeportal.gov.la</p>	<p>Operational upon Accession</p> <p>Adopted in June 2011</p> <p>Responsible staff has been assigned.  Webpage has been developed under the Trade Portal website.</p>	<p>TA received from USAID and ADB for implementation.</p> <p>TA received from USAID.</p> <p>Training and study visits for responsible staff have been requested from USAID.</p>
	<p>Establishment of SPS and TBT Notification Unit under Decree No. 363/PM "On Notification and Enquiry of Trade Related Information" of 19 August 2010</p> <p>Decision No 0471/MOIC "On SPS and TBT Notification Unit" of 9 March 2011</p> <p>Address of SPS and TBT Notification Unit:  Multilateral Trade Policy Division,  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  Email: sps_tbt_notification@laoftpd.com  Website: www.laoftpd.com</p>	<p>Operational upon Accession</p> <p>Adopted in March 2011</p> <p>Responsible staff has been assigned.</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> <p>Training and study visits for responsible staff requested from USAID.</p>

**Plan of activities and technical assistance needed for 2012:**

- 1) Develop operational manuals for SPS Enquiry Point and Notification Unit (with ADB support);
- 2) Organize dissemination workshops and produce publications on activities and function of SPS Enquiry Point and Notification Unit (with ADB and USAID support);
- 3) Provide trainings and study visits for staff responsible for SPS Enquiry Point and Notification Unit (with USAID support);
- 4) Launching event for the operation of SPS Enquiry Point and Notification Unit (with TDF support); and
- 5) Adopt all necessary legislation to ensure the full compliance with the SPS Agreement by December 2012 (with TDF and USAID support).

**Plan of activities and technical assistance needed for 2013:**

- 1) Organize dissemination workshops and produce publications on SPS new adopted legislations and SPS Agreement for relevant stakeholders include business sector, local government authorities and relevant competent authorities;
- 2) Set up the risk assessment systems for public health and agriculture sectors including seeking funding support to provide necessary equipment;
- 3) Provide relevant trainings and study visits on risk assessment staff;
- 4) Establish the National SPS Committee;
- 5) Assign the national representatives to participate in the WTO SPS committee meeting;
- 6) Organize an annual national review on the implementation of newly adopted SPS legislation;

**Plan of activities and technical assistance needed for 2014:**

- 1) Communicate to address on outstanding issues identified by annual national review;
- 2) Organize dissemination workshops and consultation meetings, if necessary;
- 3) Participate in the WTO SPS committee meeting and other relevant WTO meetings;
- 4) Organize an annual national review on the implementation of the SPS legislations; and
- 5) Exchange experiences on SPS matters with other Members.

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.

---