

# WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION

RESTRICTED

WT/ACC/TON/9

3 May 2004

(04-1952)

---

**Working Party on the  
Accession of Tonga**

Original: English

## ACCESSION OF TONGA

### Submission from the Kingdom of Tonga

#### *Notification: Implementation and Administration of the Agreement on the Application of Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS) Measures*

The following submission, dated 30 March 2004, from the Delegation of the Kingdom of Tonga is being circulated to members of the Working Party.

- 
1. The Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Food will be responsible for making notifications to the WTO and ensuring transparency obligations are met on an ongoing basis.
  2. Tonga is a member of the Food Agriculture Organization (FAO) and Codex Alimentarius Commission but not yet a Contracting party to the International Office of Epizootics (OIE) and the International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC). Tonga is also a member of the Asia Pacific Plant Protection Commission (APPPC) and Pacific Plant Protection Organization (PPPO). Tonga conforms to the standards set by FAO and other Standard Setting Bodies where possible.
  3. Given Tonga's free pest and disease status for both animals and plants and because Tonga has very limited resources to combat an inclusion of a serious animal or plant disease a negligible level of risk would be appropriate.
  4. Tonga agrees to all articles in the Agreement on the Application of Sanitary and Phytosanitary measures and the Annexes appended, and will apply the agreement from the date of accession without any transition period.

The Director  
Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Food  
P.O. Box 14  
Nuku'alofa  
Kingdom of Tonga

Telephone: +676 23038  
Fax: +676 24271  
Email: hfaanunu@maf.gov.to

---