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**Working Party on the
Accession of Yemen**

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ACCESSION OF YEMEN

Revised Check-list of Illustrative Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS) Issues¹

The following submission, dated 12 May 2006, is being circulated at the request of the Delegation of the Republic of Yemen.

¹ This document revises the SPS checklist contained in WT/ACC/YEM/5.

Commitments (by the time of accession)	Status of Implementation and Progress
1. Standstill: the introduction of new standards, animal health regulations and food safety regulations shall conform to SPS Agreement principles.	Yemen, being a member to the international conventions: Codex Alimentarius (Codex), IPPC and OIE, is working on the application of the international guidelines and recommendations of the respective conventions and needs technical and financial assistance to this end. The respective technical assistance needs are reflected in the Action Plan on the Implementation of the WTO Agreement on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures.
2. Establishment and operation of a single Contact Point for Information ("enquiry point").	Yemen is currently considering how to meet this obligation through the respective authorities, and needs technical assistance to this end. The technical assistance needs are reflected in the Action Plan on the Implementation of the WTO Agreement on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures.
3. Transparency: notification and access to documentation:	
(a) identification of authority responsible for making notifications to the WTO and ensuring transparency obligations are met on an ongoing basis;	See Item 2 above.
(b) establish guidance or law requiring publication of proposed measures at an early stage for comment;	Yemen is working to meet this obligation and will approve, amend and update its legislation and regulations. The respective technical assistance needs are reflected in the Action Plan on the Implementation of the WTO Agreement on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures.
(c) provision in law or administrative procedure to provide copies of proposed measures to WTO Members; and	See item 3.
(d) require in law or administrative procedure, a reasonable period of time for comment from Members and the public, and establishment of a process to take comments into account without discrimination.	See Item 3.
4. Necessity: measures are applied only to the extent necessary to protect human, animal or plant health.	Yemen is working to meet such commitment through the application of Pest Risk Analysis (PRA) and HACCP according to international standards issued by Codex, IPPC and OIE and will approve and amend its related legislation and regulations. The respective technical assistance needs are reflected in the Action Plan on the Implementation of the WTO Agreement on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures.
5. Regulations Based on Science: regulations governing animal and plant health and food safety shall be based on scientific evidence.	See Item 4 above.
6. Harmonization: to the extent possible, members shall follow international standards, guidelines, and recommendations in establishing SPS measures.	Yemen is working on the application of Codex, IPPC and OIE guidelines and regulations and will amend its SPS related measures based on those guidelines and regulations when amending or updating its relevant legislation and regulations. The respective technical assistance needs are reflected in the Action Plan on the Implementation of the WTO Agreement on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures.

Commitments (by the time of accession)	Status of Implementation and Progress
7. Equivalence: members shall recognize different measures that achieve the same level of protection.	See Items 4 and 6 above.
8. Risk Assessment: developing scientific evidence and conducting risk assessments to ensure that measures are based on science and applied only to the extent necessary to protect health.	See Item 4 above.
9. Regional conditions: measures take into account the regional characteristics both of the areas from which products originate and the areas for which they are destined.	Yemen will take into consideration regional characteristics. This is reflected in the Action Plan on the Implementation of the WTO Agreement on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures together with the respective technical assistance needed for that purpose.
10. Non-discrimination: measures do not arbitrarily or unjustifiably discriminate between different members or between domestic and foreign suppliers.	See Item 6 above.
11. Control, inspection and approval procedures: ensure that procedures, including systems for approval of the use of additives or for establishing tolerances for contaminants in foods, beverages or feedstuffs comply with the Agreement.	See Item 1 above.

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