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**Working Party on the
Accession of Yemen**

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ACCESSION OF YEMEN

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

Revision

The following submission, dated 19 January 2010, is being circulated at the request of the Delegation of the Republic of Yemen.

Provisions of the SPS Agreement	Activity	Time Frame	Technical Assistance Required
Article 2: Article 2.2: Measures applied only to the extent necessary to protect human, animal or plant life or health is based on sufficient scientific evidence	- Review, update and issue the Plant Quarantine Law No. 32/1999 and its executive Regulations No. 54/2001 for consistency with the SPS and the new revised text for IPPC.	2008 - 2010	- No need for technical assistance for this activity. The Law was technically reviewed and modified with assistance from IPPC/FAO and now is in the process of official approval and issuance.
	- Review and update Animal Wealth Law No. 17/2004 and its executive regulations for harmonization with respective international standards of OIE and SPS Agreement.	2009 - 2010	- A legal expert specializes in animal health and SPS Agreement. - A workshop on the major regulations to be developed.
	- Review and update the Specification Metrology and Quality Control Law No. 44/1999 in order to conform to the SPS Agreement and Codex specifications.	2008 - 2011	- A legal expert specializes in the SPS Agreement and Codex specifications. - Workshops to discuss the amended draft Law administratively, technically and scientifically.
	- Review and update the technical food regulations and food specifications in accordance with the international specifications of the Codex Alimentarius Commission.	2008 - 2011	- A legal expert specializes in food regulations and food specifications of Codex. - A workshop for discussing, modifying and recommending regulations and specifications to be in consistence with international standards.
	- Conduct sanitary survey for food safety in main cities.	2008 - 2010	- An expert in sanitary survey procedures for food safety. - Training for staff and technicians.
	- Periodic evaluation for the food control system as well as on food inspection activities according to the guides, manuals and international recommendations.	2008 - 2010 Continuous.	- An expert in food control systems and inspections (2008). - Workshops in food control and inspections (2009). - Training for staff and technicians in food control evaluation and inspections (2009-2010).
	- Preparation and issuance of Food Law for the country in coordination and cooperation with relevant ministries and authorities.	2008 - 2011	- A legal expert specializes in food. - Workshops for discussing and modifying draft law to be in consistence with international laws.
Article 2.2	- Establish the Yemeni Food Committee (Yemeni Codex Committee).	2008 - 2010	- A workshop for discussing organizational aspects, duties and responsibilities concerning National Codex Committee. - Provision of publications and guidelines issued by the International Food Constitution Board. - The food standards issued from the Codex Alimentarius Commission since 2000 to 2007.

Provisions of the SPS Agreement	Activity	Time Frame	Technical Assistance Required
	- Build and equip new plant quarantine stations at entry points.	2008 - 2010	- An expert in building and equipping plant quarantine stations. - Sampling procedures and inspection materials and equipments. - Treatment equipments. - Computers and networking. - Training of staff and technicians.
	- Build veterinary quarantine stations at entry points.	2008 - 2010	- An expert in building veterinary quarantine stations. - Training in veterinary quarantine. - Veterinary quarantine networking.
	- Development of phytosanitary and animal health laboratories.	2008 - 2010	- Diagnosis equipment and materials. - Training for laboratories staff. - An expert in identifying suitable equipment and their specifications. - An expert in laboratories management and bio-safety and security.
	- Setting a central laboratory for food safety and special food testing laboratories at the entry points.	2008 - 2012	- Buildings. - Inspection and test food for microbiological and chemical. - Training for staff and technicians in food inspection and test.
	- Development of human capacity in the areas of phytosanitary and animal health.	2008 - 2010	- Training courses for staff, technicians and scientific personnel (veterinaries, microbiologists, plant pathologists, entomologists, etc.) in the field of: - Sampling and inspection. - Diagnosis and analytical techniques.
Article 2.3, Annex C.1(a) and (d): Non-discrimination	- Check and ensure the compliance of the above mentioned laws and regulations with SPS provisions on non-discrimination, control, inspection and approval procedures.	2008 - 2013	- Training of local expertise and staff. - Networking facilities.
	- Updating information on import requirements for plants, plant products, animal and animal products and other related articles.	2008 - 2009 Continuous.	- Experts in plant pests and animal diseases and food additives and contaminants. - Experts in diagnostics and surveillance, and surveys. - Information exchange facilities (computers and networking).

Provisions of the SPS Agreement	Activity	Time Frame	Technical Assistance Required
Article 3: Articles 3.1, 3.3 and 3.4: Harmonization with international standards, guidance, and recommendations	- Check and ensure the compliance of the above mentioned laws and regulations with harmonization obligations.	2008 - 2013	- Training of local expertise and staff on harmonization. - Networking facilities.
	- Participation in SPS major meetings and other related sanitary and phytosanitary agreements meetings and their subsidiary organizations.	2008 – 2010 Continuous.	- Financial assistance (DSA, airline tickets).
	- Implement the international standards for sanitary and phytosanitary measures.	Continuous.	- Expertise in the implementation of international standards and SPS measures (2008). - Training of staff and technicians (2009-2010). - Workshops on the proper implementation of SPS Agreement (2010).
Article 4: Equivalence	- Check and ensure the compliance of the above mentioned laws and regulations with equivalence obligations.	2008 - 2013	- Training of staff and technicians on equivalence application. - Networking facilities.
Article 5: Articles 5.1, 5.2 and 5.3: Risk assessment to ensure that measures are based on science and applied only to protect health	- Update pests' lists according to risk analysis and assessment.	2008 - 2010	- Experts in plant pests and animal diseases and food additives and contaminants. - Experts in diagnostics and surveillance, and surveys. - Information exchange facilities (computers and networking).
	- Implement specific technical training programme in particular: - Plant pest risk analysis; - Implementation of HACCP system and related procedures; and - Animal disease risk analysis.	2008 - 2010	- Expertise in training of staff and technicians in risk management. - Data processing and analysis facilities.
Articles 5.1, 5.2 and 5.3	- Creation of food-borne diseases' lists according to risk analysis and assessment.	2008 - 2010	- Experts in food-borne diseases and risk analysis and risk assessment.
	- Establishment of risk analysis and assessment management.	2008 - 2010	- An expert in risk management. - Training of staff and technicians.
Article 6 and Annexes A.6 and A.7: Adaptation to regional conditions	- Initiation to find pest or disease free areas and areas of low pest or disease prevalence.	2008 - 2010	- Expertise in disease free areas and of low pest or disease prevalence. - Training in: - Disease free areas and of low pest or disease prevalence. - Epidemiological surveillance.
	- Declaration of pest or disease free areas and areas of low pest or disease prevalence.	2008 - 2011	- Mentioned in the previous technical assistance required.

Provisions of the SPS Agreement	Activity	Time Frame	Technical Assistance Required
Article 7 and Annex B: Transparency: Establishment and operation of a single enquiry point, publication of regulations and notification	- Follow up the process of the establishment and development of National Notification Authority and Enquiry Point in the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation.	Done.	- Training in SPS implementation.
	- Development of the subsidiary enquiry points in line ministries and authorities (Ministry of Health, Yemen Authority for Specifications and Metrology Organization).	2008 - 2010	- Computers and networking facilities. - Workshops on transparency. - Training in SPS measures in general and transparency in particular.
Article 8 and Annex C: Control and inspection / approval procedures for additives / tolerance contaminants in food	- Development of the pesticides residue analysis lab.	2008 - 2010	- Expertise in the field of control and inspection. - Training of staff and technicians. - Equipments and tools for analysis.
	- Development of veterinary drugs residue analysis lab.	2008 - 2010	- Expertise in the field of control and inspection. - Training of staff and technicians. - Equipments and tools for analysis
	- Development of additives and contaminants analysis lab.	2008 - 2010	- Expertise in the field of control and inspection. - Training of staff and technicians. - Equipments and tools for analysis
Full implementation of the WTO Agreement on the Application of Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures		31 December 2014	- Taking into consideration the provision of the above mentioned technical assistance.